Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Are you happy with the interim final rule issued by DHS governing federalization of CNMI immigration?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS

PHASE 6

As of November 2, 2009

Phase 6: The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization

INSIDE

SCC Election

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will be electing its officers and directors for 2010 tomorrow, Nov. 4.

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Toy Regatta

The Cub Scout Pack 913 on Saipan held its second Raingutter Regatta, with Wallynson Wally beating the competition.

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Father, son killed in 3-car crash

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A man and his infant son were killed, while seven others were injured, during a three-car collision along Middle Road in Chalan Laulau Sunday night.

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BOTA 2009

Fitial: Risky to change leadership now

GOP: Change is 'inevitable'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Fitial

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial of the Covenant Party said yesterday it will be "very risky" for the CNMI to vote for a governor without proven leadership,

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RELATED NEWS

- Number of registered voters now at 16,108. **PAGE 3**

EDUCATION MONTH HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, seated, is flanked by Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan, front row left, Board of Education chair Lucy Blanco-Maratita, seated right, and other educators right after the governor signed a proclamation declaring November Education Month and Nov. 25 Education Day in a ceremony yesterday on Capital Hill. This year's theme is "Education Opens the Gate to Endless Learning." ***See related story on Page 2.***

FLOODED

Despite the heavy rain and flooding, the 6th Annual Energy Fair went on as planned at the Garapan Fishing Base on Saturday. The six-hour fair, sponsored by the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Residential Energy Assistance Challenge and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, brought together over 10 vendors engaged in alternative power sources, energy savings technology, refrigeration and air conditioning, among other things.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Who are top recipients of ARRA money?

Feds say CNMI spent 15 pct. of money 'received'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The central government ranked first among 14 CNMI public and private agencies so far identified as recipients of the $44.3 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act money as of Oct. 30.

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Local

FOR EDUCATION MONTH CELEBRATION:

Buniag, Decena, Guiao are GES' top employees

MONETH G. DEPOSA

The three outstanding employees of the Garapan Elementary School pose for the *Saipan Tribune* during a visit to the campus yesterday. From left, Bienvenido Guiao, Support Staff of the Year; Teacher of the Year Lawrence Buniag; and Franz Decena, Teacher Aide of the Year. The three will represent the Mallard family in this year's PSS search for overall winners this month.

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Editor's Note: As part of celebrations for Education Month, the Saipan Tribune *will be featuring the individual nominees of each public school in the CNMI in a series of articles that will be published throughout November.*

The Garapan Elementary School has named Lawrence Buniag, Franz Decena, and Bienvenido Guiao as this year's outstanding employees who will vie for the islandwide search for the Public School System's employees of the year.

Buniag, 29, is a second grade teacher and has been with GES for four years. He began as a teacher aide in 2005 prior to becoming a classroom teacher for second graders.

A first time Teacher of the Year nominee, Buniag thanked the school, his colleagues, his parents, and his students for the recognition. He described mixed emotions about the honor, saying he is both proud and humbled.

To be an effective educator, one needs to put one's heart and commitment into it, he said, adding that he treats his job like his own wife, giving it love and time and finding ways to grow with his students.

The Garapan school's teacher of the year nominee believes education is a demanding profession that requires extending an extra hand, tons of patience, and sacrificing beyond the call of duty.

Buniag said the trust and confidence of his students' parents is one of the forces behind his drive to become a better educator.

In the upcoming PSS Education Day awards, Buniag does not expect anything because he believes the recognition of his students and their parents are enough reward for any school teacher.

Buniag is married to one of the school's contact teachers for special education program and has one daughter.

Teacher aide

GES named Franz Decena, 25, as its Teacher Aide of the Year.

Like Buniag, this is his first time to be recognized and is very much appreciative of the honor.

In his three years of service at GES, Decena has assisted a number of kids with special needs from their kindergarten days until reaching fifth grade.

Like his students, Decena said that every day is also a learning process for him.

"By simply knowing these kids, it helps me become a better person because we both grow as we learn. Patience and learning virtues are just among the many good things you will learn from them," he told *Saipan Tribune.*

Despite the many challenges facing public schools, Decena said that teacher aides in Garapan remain committed to supporting the students and their colleagues to meet their goal of providing quality education.

Support staff

Sixty-year-old Bienvenido Guiao was adjudged as GES' Support staff of the Year.

Saipan Tribune learned that in his 12 years of service at the school, this is the second time to be recognized for the same honor. He said he was given the same award in 1999.

He's still excited, though, about the recognition, dedicating it to his daughters and wife.

He said his job entails not just cleaning, maintaining, and repairing the school but also looking after the security and welfare of every student enrolled at GES, which has over 800 enrollees this school year.

GES is under the guidance of principal Yvonne Reyes Pangelinan.

Let's honor our nation and bask in the pride of being an American, this Citizenship Day.

Happy Citizenship Day!

Ben Fitial
Eloy Inos
2009

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Tourism Tuesday

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.

AS NIEVES LATTE SITE

Participants of this month's annual Rota Blue Triathlon will have the opportunity to visit one of the best preserved latte stone quarries in the Marianas at Rota's As Nieves Latte Site.

Located near the airport runway, the quarry is home to the largest existing latte stones in the Northern Marianas. Latte stones are limestone monoliths that were once the support structures of ancient Chamorro buildings. The quarry consists of several latte stone columns and capstones in various states of being cut away from the solid coral limestone. The eight columns at the site are approximately eight by twenty feet, while the eight capstones measure approximately twelve feet in diameter.

Today, erosion has back-filled all of the trenches to some extent and some of the stones have been split, either during quarrying or by subsequent earthquakes or root actions. This intriguing historic site is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The next time you are in Rota, be sure to step back in time and visit this magnificent site.

HAFA ADAI & TIROW WAY
MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune

3 full-time docs see 30 patients daily at hospital's ER

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

One of the Commonwealth Health Center's busiest departments, the emergency room, has just three full-time doctors attending to a maximum of 30 patients in two 12-hour shift, according to documents submitted by the Department of Public Health to the Legislature.

The number of attending physicians, DPH said, is not enough to provide proper healthcare in the ER department, which should have at least five full time doctors.

DPH said all three full-time doctors are board certified in either family medicine or internal medicine.

"The practice of emergency medicine on Saipan is much more suited to a generalist than a sub-specialist," the DPH document states.

It pointed out that over 30 percent of ERs in the U.S. mainland, particularly in rural and remote locations, are staffed similarly like Saipan.

Besides the lack of physicians, DPH admitted that it is also suffering from a shortage in medical supplies, such as sutures and sets for laceration repairs and incision/drainage of abscesses.

DPH described this concern as an "occasional shortage" but are usually temporary.

Saipan Tribune learned that before a patient is admitted to the ER, one must first register to be seen. A nurse will check their vital signs and, if it is an urgent situation, they are immediately brought to a bed. If not, they are asked to wait for their turn, which could take hours.

DPH said the "waiting time" at the hospital varies because of many factors.

If a patient comes to the ER with an "inappropriate complaint" like back pain or a simple cold, they may wait for up to four hours because there are many more seriously ill patients to be seen, DPH said. If the condition is serious, the patient is immediately seen at ER.

Most patients also wait too long at ER because they come to the "wrong facility," DPH said.

"ER is for emergencies. The clinics are for routine complaints. If you come to ER with a minor complaint that can be better handled at a clinic, the nurse informs them immediately that they the choice if they want to wait," DPH said.

The DPH also belied allegations that there are some ER operations that are being conducted without the presence of a doctor.

"This is incorrect. There is no time when there is no doctor in the ER," it said.

Because of the current situation at the only public hospital on island, the government has declared the facility under a state of emergency.

Fitial wants a more specific recruitment plan from DPH

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said yesterday he received a draft plan from the Department of Public Health on appropriate recruitment strategies in connection with his Oct. 20 declaration of health emergency for the CNMI that will pave the way for the hiring of doctors from outside the U.S. and Canada.

"They gave me a draft but I asked them to change it because it's very vague. There is no clear delineation of duties and responsibilities," he said.

Fitial is supposed to meet with DPH officials on the issue yesterday.

The governor, in his declaration, ordered DPH to immediately adopt new recruitment strategies to restore an adequate level of medical services at the hospital.

He also directed the Medical Profession Licensing Board, which is now known as the Health Care Professions Licensing Board, "to review and revise regulations so that expanded medical services may be provided to the client population of the Commonwealth" within 15 days of the Oct. 20 declaration.

The Health Care Professions Licensing Board is set to have a regular board meeting at 12:30pm today in conference room #3 at the Dr. Jose T. Villagomez Center for Public Health and Dialysis Center. One of the items on the board's agenda is the "CHC emergency declaration." ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

Number of registered voters now at 16,108

CEC expects 14K to cast votes

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

As of Oct. 22, the Commonwealth Election Commission has already posted a total number of 16,108 registered voters on three islands.

CEC executive director Robert Guerrero said yesterday the figure includes the nearly 2,000 absentee ballots it sent to voters in off-island sites.

He believes the figure is pretty much the number to be expected in this year's general election.

Guerrero said the only way the commission will issue another update on the registered voters is if there are deaths and convictions that will occur before the Nov. 7 election, which must be certified by the court or hospital.

"There shouldn't be any update on the figures unless somebody will die or is convicted, which will need the certification from the court or hospital. And if it does, it shouldn't be that much so we're pretty much expecting the 16,108 as the total registered number here," he told *Saipan Tribune.*

Guerrero said that over 50 percent of the nearly 2,000 absentee ballots have already been received but these are currently being kept at the post office for security purposes and will only be picked up on Saturday at 2pm for the counting.

"Technically, we are expecting voters in polling places not to exceed 14,000," Guerrero said.

Stat per district

Based on the latest commission numbers, Election District 1 remains the biggest voting bloc, with 4,317 registered voters. This covers the villages of San Antonio, 793; San Vicente, 2,451; and Koblerville, 1,073.

Election District 2, which covers Chalan Kanoa and Susupe areas, has 1,239 registered voters.

Election District 3, comprising Oleai, with 890 voters, and Garapan, with 2,464, has a total of 3,354 voters.

The four villages belonging to Election District 4, have 1,763 registered voters: Tanapag, 639; San Roque, 560; Capital Hill, 415; and Northern Islands, 149.

Kagman, which comprises Election District 5, has 2,374 total registered voters.

Tinian, classified as Election District 6, has 1,429 voters, while Election District 7, Rota, has 1,632 voters.

Overall, Saipan has 13,047 of the 16,108 total number of registered voters.

In the 2005 gubernatorial election, the Election Commission registered 15,118 voters.

??????

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DEQ warns vs sale of illegal pesticides

The importation and selling of foreign and/or misbranded pesticides and pesticide devices is illegal, according a Division of Environmental Quality statement yesterday.

The division emphasized that products that may be imported or sold in the CNMI are legal products that are registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and are properly labeled in the English language.

DEQ said that all pesticides must be labeled with the name of pesticide in bold letters, restricted use designation, description of which pests are controlled, chemical name of pesticide, active ingredients and percentages, inert ingredients, EPA registration number, patent numbers, directions for proper use and appropriate signal words such as caution, warning or danger poison. Misbranded pesticides also refer to products that bear any statement, design, or graphic representation, which is false or misleading.

A pesticide is any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling or mitigating any pest. Many household products are pesticides and can include kitchen, laundry and bath disinfectants and sanitizers. Products that kill mold and mildew are also considered pesticides.

"The importation, sale or distribution of illegal pesticides in the CNMI places our community, especially children, at risk of being poisoned," DEQ said.

The DEQ Pesticide Management branch is charged with the responsibility to regulate the importation, sale and distribution of pesticides, legal or illegal to ensure public health and a clean and healthy environment. DEQ staff regularly inspects business establishments for any misbranded products. Should misbranded items be found, all misbranded pesticides will be confiscated and penalties may be assessed.

The CNMI Pesticide Regulations are available to any interested party. Call or visit the Division of Environmental Quality Pesticide Management branch at 664-8522, located along Chalan Pale Arnold at the Gualo Rai Center or visit the DEQ website at www.deq.gov.mp. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 7:30am to 4:30pm. ***(DEQ)***

ARRA

From Page 1

The central government was awarded over $19.456 million, followed by another award of over $6.711 million.

Taking the top three spot is the Commonwealth Ports Authority with $5 million.

The 11 other CNMI public and private recipients of ARRA money so far awarded are to get anywhere between $2,917 and over $3.28 million.

ARRA money awarded, however, is different from money received.

Of the $44.3 million so far awarded, only $5.560 million has been received by the CNMI, according to data from the official federal tracking system, www.recovery.gov.

The CNMI has so far spent $849,423.65 or 15 percent of the $5.560 million received.

The amount spent also represents 1.9 percent of the total amount awarded to the CNMI.

Federal data does not break down which of the 14 entities bagged the money so far received, amounting to $5.560 million.

Earlier, www.recovery.gov reported that over $46 million had been made available to the islands. After the reporting period in October, some figures posted on the website changed from the previous postings.

Moreover, Commerce Secretary Michael Ada said yesterday the Department of Public Health was able to comply, albeit late, with the reporting requirement under Section 1512 of the ARRA, whose original deadline was Oct. 10.

By middle of October, only DPH and the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation failed to meet the Oct. 10 deadline for the first reporting period for ARRA 2009.

The deadline was extended to Oct. 20 but OVR still failed to submit its report.

"DPH was able to comply with the reporting by the deadline extension of the 20th; however, the largest expenditure of DPH ARRA money was exempt from 1512 reporting (Medicaid). OVR was still dealing with technical issues with the CCR which were prohibiting them from accessing Federal Reporting.gov," Ada told *Saipan Tribune.*

Top recipients

Recovery.gov is the U.S. government's official website providing easy access to data related to ARRA spending, and allows for the reporting of potential fraud, waste and abuse.

It said ARRA money has so far created and saved 158 jobs in the CNMI.

As of Oct. 30, the recipients of awarded ARRA money are: The CNMI central government, $19,456,206; CNMI central government, $6,711,011; CPA, $5 million.

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has so far been awarded $3,280,700; Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, $2,769,260; Northern Marianas Housing Corp., $2,048,293; Criminal Justice Planning Agency, $1,846,925; and Public School System, $1,514,907.

Also on the list are: Northern Marianas College, $877,193; Department of Public Safety, $519,048; DPH, $185,995; Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, $78,125; Winzler & Kelly, $34,774; and Engineering Solutions Inc., $2,917.

FITIAL

From Page 1

especially in these challenging times amid federalization and economic recovery concerns. House Speaker Arnold I. Palacios, who is the running mate of gubernatorial candidate Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider of the Republican Party, says "change is inevitable."

The four-way gubernatorial race will be held this Saturday.

Besides Fitial and Hofschneider, the other two gubernatorial candidates are Independents Juan "Pan" Guerrero, and former senator Ramon "Kumoi" Deleon Guerrero.

Members of the Republican Party, during their final rally over the weekend, criticized Fitial and some alleged empty campaign promises.

Fitial, when interviewed yesterday, said he welcomes political attacks, being the incumbent governor and a candidate, but said he is "very concerned about the leadership of the CNMI in the next four years."

"Right now, for the CNMI to be successful, we must have continuity in leadership and stability. Any ordinary person who understands government would have no problem making that determination material to select the candidates with proven experience, proven leadership. It is very risky now for the CNMI to take an untested and unproven leadership. Why? Because of the very challenging issues that the CNMI is facing today," he told reporters.

In an interview right after signing a proclamation declaring November Education Month, Fitial said he hopes "those people who attack are doing it for the good of the people instead of their own good."

Palacios (R-Saipan), when asked for comment on Fitial's statement about the need for a proven and stable leadership, said those were only the governor's "opinion."

"Change is inevitable and we took a risk four years ago; the people did take a risk. Every incumbent governor can talk about continuity of leadership but the people are the ultimate judge of that," Palacios said in a phone interview.

High voter turnout

Fitial expects a high turnout on Saturday for the gubernatorial elections, with some 16,100 registered voters.

"I think because of the fact that there are four candidates, the enthusiasm of voters will be very, very high… perhaps the greatest turnout ever in the history of the CNMI," he said.

A runoff between the two top vote getters, however, is possible, given the four-way gubernatorial race.

Palacios said the Republican Party is "hopeful" that all their hard work will pay off.

"We will try our best," he added.

Another challenge

On Friday, the CNMI government filed a supplemental memorandum supporting its motion for a preliminary injunction against federalization by citing the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's publication of its interim final rule.

Fitial also asked his lawyers to challenge a violation of the Administrative Procedures Act because DHS published its "interim final rule" on the CNMI transitional worker program, allegedly without complying with the notice and comment provisions of the APA.

"The department had nearly 18 months to prepare these regulations," said Fitial.

Yesterday, Fitial said the papers challenging a violation of the APA will be filed Monday in Washington, D.C. (Tuesday Saipan time).

"I will see to it that our labor, and our local economy, our local self-government will be upheld because you can't find anywhere in the Covenant, or our agreement with the United States, that says the federal government will micromanage the CNMI separate (or different) from the other states and territories of the United States," he told reporters.

He said he hopes he will "prevail" in the lawsuit he filed against the U.S. government over federalization of CNMI.

'Separate labor from immigration'

Fitial said he has no qualms with the federal government securing CNMI borders, saying the Commonwealth do not have the capability to protect its borders.

"That's given, that's already memorialized," he said.

When asked how he thinks the federal government can separate labor from immigration control, he said: "Very easy. Let them screen the people we are trying to bring in and if they find that certain individuals are undesirable and should be excludable, then we respect that. But if they are not, then they should allow us to process them pursuant to our local labor law. What's so difficult about that? As a matter of fact, we enforce our local law better."

Fitial also cited his administration's accomplishment of clearing a backlog of more than 4,000 labor cases.

FATHER

From Page 1

James Michael Sablan Ada, 33, of Chalan Kanoa, was pronounced dead by a doctor at 10:18pm. He had head trauma, internal bleeding, and pelvic fracture, according to the Department of Public Safety.

Ada's son—1 year and 3 months old—was pronounced dead by a doctor at 12:35am yesterday. The child had head trauma.

Ada's wife, 28, had laceration on her lip and complained of pain on the right shoulder and right wrist but she refused to be admitted to the hospital.

The couple's two other passengers—ages 4 and 7—were admitted to the Commonwealth Health Center for observation.

The 4-year-old had a swollen forehead and complained of pain in the abdomen. The 7-year-old child had abdominal pain. The report did not indicate the gender of the two children and their relationship to the couple.

The Ada couple and the three children were on board a red 1993 Toyota Corolla sedan, which sustained extensive damage to the front and left side.

The wife was on the front passenger side. Their child was on her lap. The two other minors were passengers in the back.

Also injured was a 20-year-old man who had abrasions on the left arm, laceration on the left knee, and abrasions on the left foot. He was the driver of a 1999 Nissan Pathfinder, which was totaled. His passenger was a 16-year-old male. The report did not indicate if he was injured.

The 33-year-old male driver of the third vehicle—a white 2000 Isuzu Rodeo—had lacerations on the left knee and right ankle. He had abdominal pain, and bruises on the chest. He was admitted to CHC for observation.

The Rodeo's passenger—a 31-year-old woman—was admitted for observation due to severe abdominal pain and pain on the right shoulder and chest. The Rodeo had extensive damage to the front and the front windshield.

In all, nine persons were involved in the accident and all were brought to CHC.

DPS spokesperson Jason Tarkong said that emergency personnel responded to a report of a three-car accident along Chalan Pale Arnold Highway (Middle Road) on Sunday night, Nov. 1 (All Saints' Day).

Preliminary investigation showed that the driver of the Izuzu Rodeo was traveling south just past McDonald's on the inside southbound lane when he lost control of the car.

The Rodeo hit the rear of the Nissan Pathfinder, which was traveling south in the same lane and direction as the Rodeo.

The impact caused the Pathfinder to flip over and roll before coming to a rest on the right shoulder of the highway across the road from the Coca Cola Company.

The Rodeo then crossed onto the northbound lane, into the path of the Toyota Corolla, which was traveling north on the inside lane. The Toyota Corolla swerved right to avoid colliding with the Rodeo but was hit, with the Rodeo slamming into the Toyota Corolla's driver's side.

The collision caused the Toyota Corolla to spin 180 degrees and face south, opposite the direction it was traveling. The Toyota Corolla's final resting point was on the right shoulder of the outer northbound lane. This was right outside the Coca Cola fence line.

The Rodeo continued north and came to its resting point just a few yards south of the Red Corolla in front of the Coca Cola building.

All passengers were treated at the scene and transported to CHC's emergency room.

Ada, the driver of the Toyota Corolla, was unresponsive at the scene. DPS fire fighters extricated him from the wrecked car using a specialized equipment called the Jaws of Life.

Ada's 1-year-old son was also unresponsive at the scene and was transported to CHC. Ada and his child later died.

Tarkong said investigators have not determined if alcohol was involved in the crash. Investigators, however, found out that speed was a factor, he said.

"This case is still under investigation. No citations have been issued," he said.

Ada and his child are the fifth and sixth fatalities in vehicular crashes in the CNMI this year. All accidents happened on Saipan.

Last Oct. 24, a Filipino construction worker was killed when he was struck by a Toyota Rav-4 along Monsignor Martinez Road in As Lito. The driver was cited for traffic violations, but DPS did not release his name to the media.

On Aug. 21, a pedestrian died when a pickup truck reportedly driven by an intoxicated woman struck him along Kagman Road near the Kagman Community Center.

The driver, Sayuri Aldan Paulis, 34, was arrested for vehicular homicide, driving under the influence of alcohol, reckless driving, and exceeding the posted speed limit.

On April 1, a man died while four others were injured during a vehicular collision allegedly caused by an intoxicated driver along Dandan's main road.

Last Jan. 20, a pedestrian died when two vehicles struck him along Beach Road in front of the Marianas High School in Susupe. Investigators found the pedestrian at fault.

Kaipat: No-maids provision in regs is 'anti-women'

A ranking CNMI Department of Labor official believes the no-maids provisions of the recently announced federal regulations are discriminatory in nature, not just against women but also foreign workers.

"The no-maids provisions discriminate against women on several grounds," said Jacinta M. Kaipat said yesterday. "First, it has the effect of forcing our women to stay home and take care of the household instead of working."

Kaipat is the Deputy Secretary of Labor who is on leave running for the Senate.

It is unacceptable to many people to hire a maid from an impersonal company, Kaipat said. Women do not want to entrust their homes and their children to some employee of a company. They want the household help that they have had for years and the people that they trust, she added.

The drafters of this federal statute were all men, Kaipat said. They apparently did not care about the rights of women to be in the workplace, and they did not

Kaipat

understand the important part that women play in the workforce here in the Commonwealth.

"The no-maids policy also discriminates against some of our longest-staying foreign workers," Kaipat.said "Women who have been on our islands taking care of our children and our elderly since the 1980s do not deserve this back-of-the-hand treatment. The foreign workers who help our children and elderly are valued employees. They have long-standing relationships with our families and with our Commonwealth. They have done nothing to deserve this harsh result."

No similar limitation was put on occupations typically occupied by men, Kaipat pointed out.

If necessary, the Commonwealth Legislature may be asked to allow households to be non-profit sole proprietorships in order to continue to hire their long-time houseworkers directly and not through a manpower service.

"We spent some considerable effort in this Fitial administration cleaning up the labor situation with manpower services," Kaipat said. "It is much better for our foreign workers to deal directly with the families for whom they work and not be subject to manpower services which add cost without adding any benefit to the community or to the workers." ***(PR)***

Suspected 'ice' supplier falls

A suspected supplier of methamphetamine or "ice" was arrested in As Lito on Friday after police conducted two buy-bust operations.

Cho Qui was arrested for illegal possession of a controlled substance and trafficking of a controlled substance.

At yesterday's hearing, Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman imposed a $60,000 cash bail for Qui's temporary liberty. Wiseman set the preliminary hearing for Nov. 16 at 9am.

Detective Steven A. Castro said the Department of Public Safety's narcotics agents conducted a sting operation against Qui on Oct. 16.

Castro said a "cooperating source" and an undercover police officer managed to buy $100 and $50 worth of "ice" from Qui in two occasions at his residence in San Antonio.

Castro said Qui's house is just three lots east of the San Antonio Elementary School.

The detective said "cooperating source" also saw several laptops at Qui's house.

The "cooperating source" believe the laptops are possibly stolen as there were still government seals on some of the computers.

The detective did not indicate in his report whether the computers were seized. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

11 charges filed vs armed robbery suspect

The Office of the Attorney General has filed 11 charges, including two counts of attempted first-degree murder, against one of the suspects in the recent daylight robbery at a pawnshop in Chalan Kanoa that injured two persons.

Aside from two counts of attempted first-degree murder, the OAG also charged Marlon Martin with two counts of aggravated assault and battery, two counts of assault and battery, two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon, one count of armed robbery, one count of theft, and one count of conspiracy to commit robbery.

During yesterday's preliminary hearing, Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman found probable cause to believe that the crimes were committed. He also determined probable cause that the person who may have committed the 11 offenses is Martin.

The judge ordered Martin to answer the charges. Arraignment is set for Nov. 9.

Assistant attorney general William Downer represented the government. Assistant public defender Michael Curtis Brown served as counsel for Martin.

Martin's companion in the alleged robbery has yet to be arrested. Sources said investigators have already identified the second suspect and a possible third suspect.

Wiseman earlier imposed no bail for the ex-convict Martin, but presiding judge Robert C. Naraja last week reduced the bail to $20,000 cash.

Martin, 25, a Palauan/Pohnapean, was arrested shortly after the robbery and brought to the Commonwealth Health Center for treatment of a laceration in his right thumb.

A 72-year-old Korean man sustained bruises on the chest. He was treated at CHC and later released.

The second victim, a 45-year-old Filipino man, had a gash on the head that required nine staples. He was treated at CHC and also later released.

Detective Christopher Leon Guerrero said the robbery happened on Oct. 23 at the 24 Hours Pawnshop, formerly called the Pink House Pawnshop.

Leon Guerrero said witnesses chased the two suspects, but only Martin was arrested.

Leon Guerrero recovered $834.10 cash and a pepper mace from Martin. The suspects reportedly stole about $6,000 cash. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

CUC's interim financial plan, rates scrutinized

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission has directed the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s consultant to review and report on CUC's interim financial plan, which was earlier filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

In an evaluation report Georgetown Consulting Group submitted to the commission on Oct. 21, it was also learned that GCG is being asked about its position on the need to increase CUC's water and wastewater rates to finance the federal requirements.

Georgetown told the commission it has examined key deficiencies in CUC's interim financial plan and made recommendations for key components in the financial management plan, as required by the stipulated order.

The stipulated order, signed by U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Alex R. Munson in March this year, represents the agreement between the CNMI and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency based on the requirements of the Clean Air Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act. It sets requirements and deadlines for CUC to meet and provides a roadmap for providing improved water and sewer services in the CNMI.

The federal government notified CUC on Oct. 16 that the utility agency has accrued $630,000 in penalties for not complying with the provisions of the stipulated order.

Based on GCG's initial review, it recommends that the commission consider the implementation of water and wastewater rate relief as an interim measure that will be supported by testimony it plans to file on Nov. 4. In preparing for this testimony, GCG said it will incorporate any additional data received from CUC and will finalize its recommended rates.

"We recommend that further review and deliberation on water and wastewater rate relief matters occur during the March 2010 regulatory session when CPUC will be able to consider EPA approved interim financial plan and its impact on CUC's FY 2010 revenue requirements," CGC told the commission.

Georgetown also said that CUC does not currently meet the requirements of the stipulated orders and, while it continues to make progress toward meeting these legislative mandates, there is a substantial gap between CUC's current financial capabilities and these financial management mandates.

The same evaluation report also showed that CPUC has not been notified of the "serious" violation of CPUC's order.

Georgetown admitted that because of significant changes in sales of water services since its original recommendations last March, they are expecting changes in the next proposals.

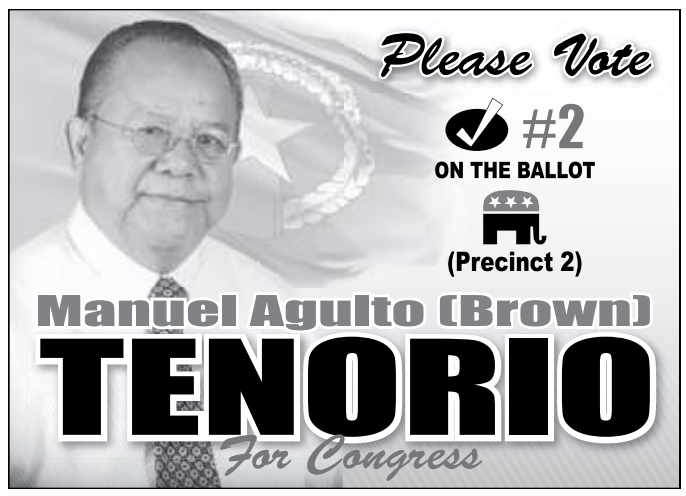
It also cited that based on initial review, an estimated increase of 51 percent in across-the-board revenues would be required to meet the stipulated orders' requirements.

For the wastewater division, Georgetown said there is a significant need to increase revenues by 184 percent.

"This is in addition to CPUC's previously ordered increases, which have not been implemented," the consultants reported.

It also indicated that additional data from CUC are vital in completing its continued review of CUC's water and wastewater department rates and its current interim financial plan.

Georgetown wants CUC to provide it with the FY 2008 final audited financial statements, FY 2009 unaudited financial statements, latest FY 2009 detailed monthly financial report, and FY 2010 detailed operating and capital budgets.



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Chef Okawa at Teppanyaki this November

Teppanyaki proudly presents Chef Wataru Okawa of the renowned "Keyakizaka", Grand Hyatt Tokyo's one Michelin Star Teppanyaki restaurant.

Savour the exquisite flavours from an array of market fresh seasonal meats, seafood and vegetables. Featuring Kurobuta pork, Certified Angus beef, Sonoma duck breast and many more.

Starts November 3rd till 7th
6:00pm - 9:00pm
A la carte selections and set menus are available

For reservations, please 234-1234 extension 26

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State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP 09-024

"SIGN LANGUAGE AND INTERPRETING SERVICES"

The CNMI Public School System (PSS) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for the procurement of Sign Language and Interpreting Services. The Scope of Work is available at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950.

Proposals should be placed in a sealed envelope marked **"PSS RFP # 09-024"** containing one (l) original and three (3) copies and be submitted to the Procurement and Supply Office no later than Friday, November 13, 2009 at 10:00 A.M. Any proposal received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Questions must be in writing and addressed to Ms. Suzanne Lizama, Acting SPED Coordinator, at fax # (670) 664-3774 or email to lizamasuzanne@gmail.com. Questions must be submitted no later than Tuesday, November 10, 2009.

Proposers are requested to submit a copy of their CNMI Business License with their proposal.

All proposals shall become the property of the Public School System.

/S/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/S/ Robert Florian
P&S Officer

Mahjong game ends in fight

A mahjong game in western Garapan resulted in a fight between two players that left one with multiple injuries Friday night.

Hua Feng Sun, 36, was arrested for aggravated assault and battery, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. He was taken to the Superior Court yesterday for a bail hearing.

Associate Judge David Wiseman imposed a $500 cash bail for the defendant's temporary liberty. Preliminary hearing was set for Nov. 16 at 9am.

The alleged victim, Xua Huang, sustained cuts in the head, bruises all over the body, and black eyes. He was taken to the Commonwealth Health Center and later released.

Detective Jackson W. Jack stated in his report that on Friday at 12:47am the Department of Public Safety received a call about a fight behind GIG Night Club.

Investigation showed that prior to the incident, Sun and Huang were playing mahjong at the Rui Jin Store.

Mahjong is a Chinese tile-matching game of four players.

Huang won the first game, but Sun did not want to pay up. Sun claimed that Huang owed him $200 from their previous game two years ago.

An argument ensued between the two. Sun then left the area.

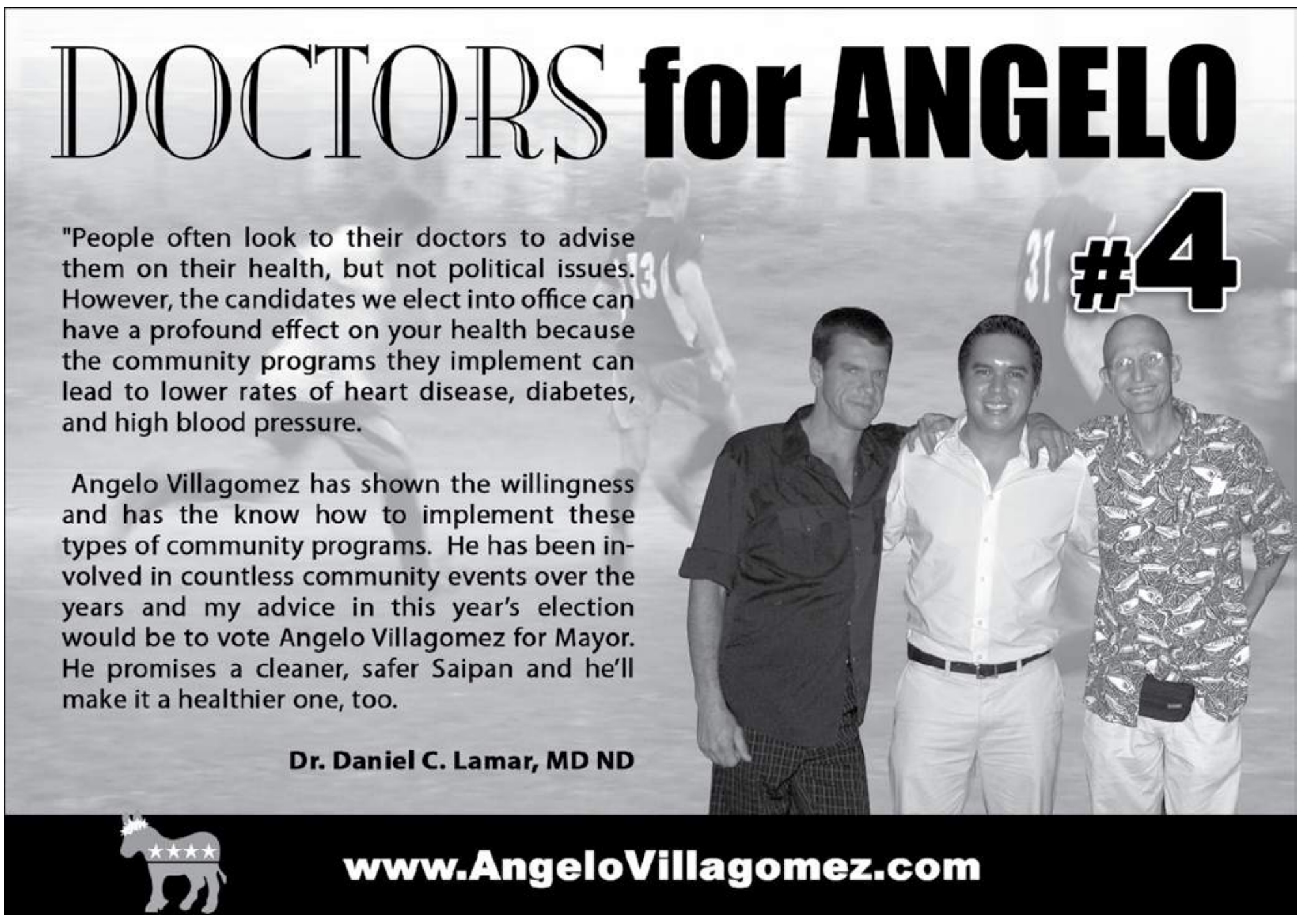
After 30 minutes, Huang walked out of the store and proceeded toward 777 Poker Game Room.

Sun suddenly appeared behind Huang and he allegedly hit Huang on the back of the head, causing the victim to fall to the ground.

Sun then allegedly choked and punched Huang in the face repeatedly.

Huang later proceeded to DPS Criminal Investigation Division where he gave a statement to an investigator.

Police arrested Sun Friday night in Chinatown. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***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"People often look to their doctors to advise them on their health, but not political issues. However, the candidates we elect into office can have a profound effect on your health because the community programs they implement can lead to lower rates of heart disease, diabetes, and high blood pressure.
Angelo Villagomez has shown the willingness and has the know how to implement these types of community programs. He has been involved in countless community events over the years and my advice in this year's election would be to vote Angelo Villagomez for Mayor. He promises a cleaner, safer Saipan and he'll make it a healthier one, too.
Dr. Daniel C. Lamar, MD ND
#4
www.AngeloVillagomez.com

Renowned chef heats up Hyatt's Teppanyaki

Hyatt Regency Saipan scored a coup by borrowing renowned chef Wataru Okawa for its five-day promotion at Teppanyaki starting today until Saturday.

Okawa is the chef de cuisine of the world famous Keyakizaka restaurant of Grand Hyatt Tokyo. Keyakizaka was recently awarded a star by Michelin Guide, the who's who of restaurant rating.

The Michelin Guide uses a system of symbols to identify the best hotels and restaurants within each comfort and price category. For restaurants, Michelin's stars are based on five criteria:quality of the products; mastery of flavor and cooking; personality of the cuisine; value for money; and consistency between visits.

Teppanyaki innovator

Hyatt Regency F&B director Ranjeet Rajebhosale said Okawa is an innovator in the Teppanyaki style of cooking and will show off his mastery of the Teppan grill from Nov. 3 to 7, 6pm-9pm, at the Garapan landmark's Teppanyaki outlet.

Okawa said what makes his style different from traditional Teppanyaki cooking is his liberal use of Western ingredients, no doubt influenced by his French culinary background.

Also unlike other Teppanyaki restaurants, Okawa prepares a full-course meal using only the Teppan grill—from the appetizer, to the soup, to the main course, down to the dessert.

Okawa said he is already excited to show off his Teppanyaki expertise to Hyatt Regency's loyal customers and is contemplating what dish will be best paired with his famous anchovy sauce.

Not content with importing Keyakizaka's most prized chef, Hyatt Regency will also be stocking up on the best seasonal meats like Kurobuta pork, certified Angus beef, Sonoma duck breast, to complement an array of market fresh seafood and vegetables.

FOR RESERVATIONS

Hyatt Regency Saipan F&B: 234-1234 Ext. 26.

Finally here

Hyatt Regency executive chef Gabriel Colombo said Okawa's visit to Saipan has been in the works since a couple of years back and he's happy that Keyakizaka's lead chef is finally here.

He said the plan is for Okawa to mentor Hyatt Regency's chefs during his abbreviated stay on Saipan. Colombo said he hopes to adopt Keyakizaka's unique Teppanyaki cooking to Hyatt Regency's Japanese restaurant.

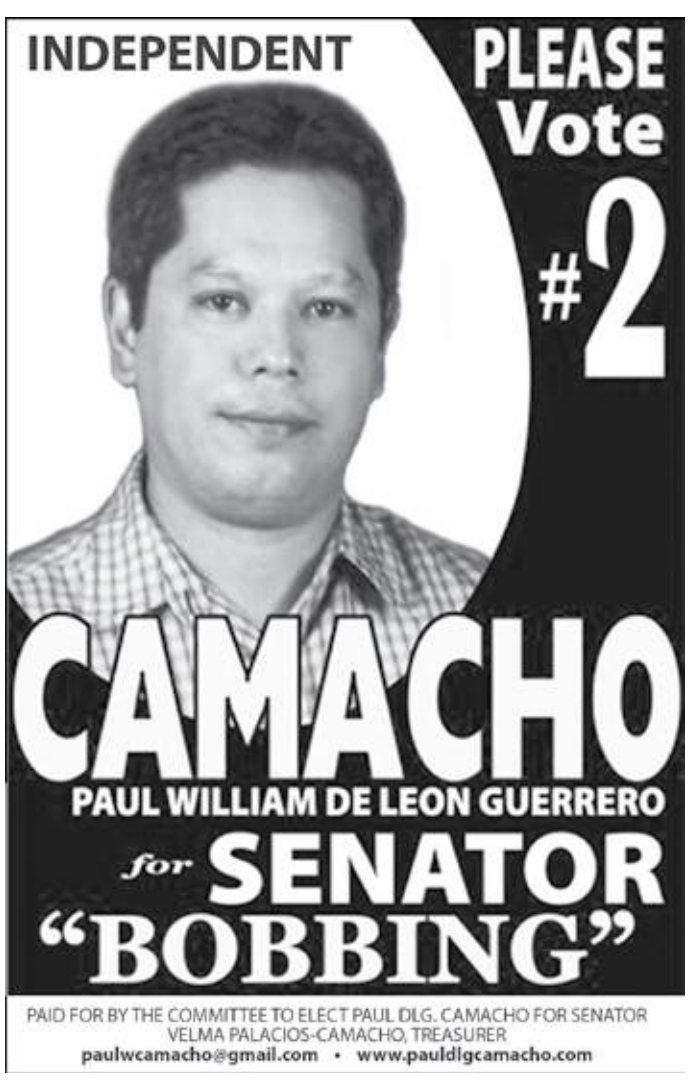
CATH discounts extended

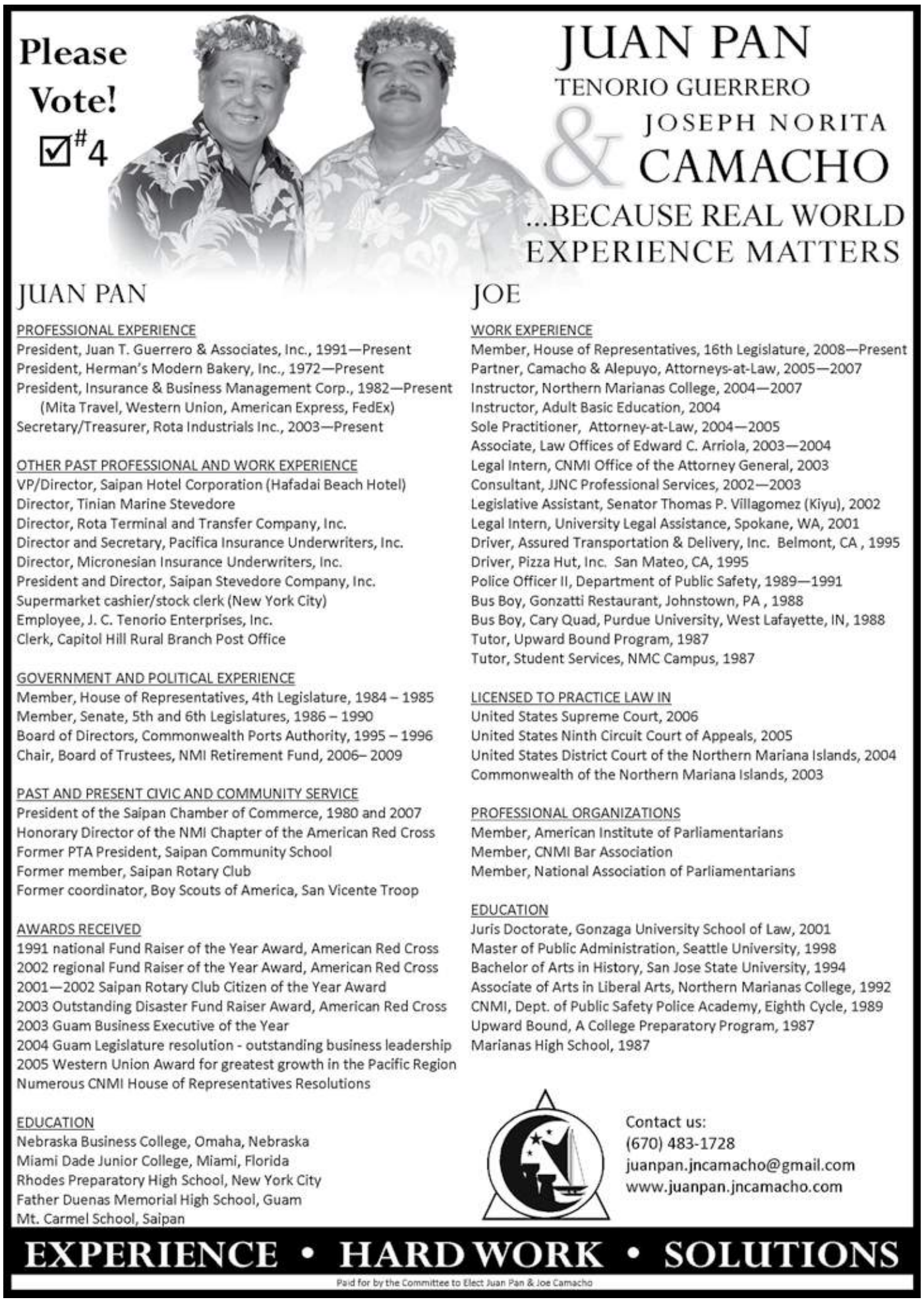
Rajebhosale is inviting Hyatt Regency's loyal customers and those interested in sampling Okawa's unique cooking style starting this evening at Teppanyaki.

He said aside from the a la carte selections, set menus are also available and discounts for Club at the Hyatt members are applicable during the five-day promotion.

For more information or for reservations, call 234-1234 ext. 26. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Keyakizaka chef de cuisine Wataru Okawa, left, poses with Hyatt Regency Saipan executive chef Gabriel Colombo yesterday inside the Teppanyaki restaurant.

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President, Juan T. Guerrero & Associates, Inc., 1991—Present
President, Herman's Modern Bakery, Inc., 1972—Present
President, Insurance & Business Management Corp., 1982—Present
(Mita Travel, Western Union, American Express, FedEx)
Secretary/Treasurer, Rota Industrials Inc., 2003—Present
OTHER PAST PROFESSIONAL AND WORK EXPERIENCE
VP/Director, Saipan Hotel Corporation (Hafadai Beach Hotel)
Director, Tinian Marine Stevedore
Director, Rota Terminal and Transfer Company, Inc.
Director and Secretary, Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc.
Director, Micronesian Insurance Underwriters, Inc.
President and Director, Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc.
Supermarket cashier/stock clerk (New York City)
Employee, J. C. Tenorio Enterprises, Inc.
Clerk, Capitol Hill Rural Branch Post Office
GOVERNMENT AND POLITICAL EXPERIENCE
Member, House of Representatives, 4th Legislature, 1984 – 1985
Member, Senate, 5th and 6th Legislatures, 1986 – 1990
Board of Directors, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 1995 – 1996
Chair, Board of Trustees, NMI Retirement Fund, 2006– 2009
PAST AND PRESENT CIVIC AND COMMUNITY SERVICE
President of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, 1980 and 2007
Honorary Director of the NMI Chapter of the American Red Cross
Former PTA President, Saipan Community School
Former member, Saipan Rotary Club
Former coordinator, Boy Scouts of America, San Vicente Troop
AWARDS RECEIVED
1991 national Fund Raiser of the Year Award, American Red Cross
2002 regional Fund Raiser of the Year Award, American Red Cross
2001—2002 Saipan Rotary Club Citizen of the Year Award
2003 Outstanding Disaster Fund Raiser Award, American Red Cross
2003 Guam Business Executive of the Year
2004 Guam Legislature resolution - outstanding business leadership
2005 Western Union Award for greatest growth in the Pacific Region
Numerous CNMI House of Representatives Resolutions
EDUCATION
Nebraska Business College, Omaha, Nebraska
Miami Dade Junior College, Miami, Florida
Rhodes Preparatory High School, New York City
Father Duenas Memorial High School, Guam
Mt. Carmel School, Saipan
JOE
WORK EXPERIENCE
Member, House of Representatives, 16th Legislature, 2008—Present
Partner, Camacho & Alepuyo, Attorneys-at-Law, 2005—2007
Instructor, Northern Marianas College, 2004—2007
Instructor, Adult Basic Education, 2004
Sole Practitioner, Attorney-at-Law, 2004—2005
Associate, Law Offices of Edward C. Arriola, 2003—2004
Legal Intern, CNMI Office of the Attorney General, 2003
Consultant, JJNC Professional Services, 2002—2003
Legislative Assistant, Senator Thomas P. Villagomez (Kiyu), 2002
Legal Intern, University Legal Assistance, Spokane, WA, 2001
Driver, Assured Transportation & Delivery, Inc. Belmont, CA , 1995
Driver, Pizza Hut, Inc. San Mateo, CA, 1995
Police Officer II, Department of Public Safety, 1989—1991
Bus Boy, Gonzatti Restaurant, Johnstown, PA , 1988
Bus Boy, Cary Quad, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, 1988
Tutor, Upward Bound Program, 1987
Tutor, Student Services, NMC Campus, 1987
LICENSED TO PRACTICE LAW IN
United States Supreme Court, 2006
United States Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, 2005
United States District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands, 2004
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, 2003
PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Member, American Institute of Parliamentarians
Member, CNMI Bar Association
Member, National Association of Parliamentarians
EDUCATION
Juris Doctorate, Gonzaga University School of Law, 2001
Master of Public Administration, Seattle University, 1998
Bachelor of Arts in History, San Jose State University, 1994
Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts, Northern Marianas College, 1992
CNMI, Dept. of Public Safety Police Academy, Eighth Cycle, 1989
Upward Bound, A College Preparatory Program, 1987
Marianas High School, 1987
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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Boy Scout District Committee meeting set

CNMI Boy Scout District Committee members are being informed that the monthly District Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, Nov. 5, 2009, at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

The presence of all District Committee members is greatly appreciated. For more information, call Calistro I. Reyes at 233-5400.

The agenda the District Chairman's Report by David M. Sablan; Island Director's Report by Calistro I. Reyes; Membership/Relationship Chairman's Report by Mark Birmingham; and District Commissioner's Report by Jess Muna, among others. ***(PR)***

Operation NMC SROTC set

Returning CNMI cadets from the University of Guam's Senior Reserve Officers Training Corps announces "Operation NMC SROTC," which will be held at the Northern Marianas College Student Center on Thursday, Nov. 12, 2009, from 1pm-2pm. These returning student leaders will be hosting an information session regarding the CNMI's Army Officer producing program available at the Northern Marianas College for all interested individuals considering the military as a career. The purpose of this event is to explain the significance of the Corps, its integral role in CNMI and its contribution to the success of CNMI cadets. ***(PR)***

DEQ Brigade sets cleanup

The Division of Environmental Quality cleanup brigade will be picking up trash at Coral Ocean Point in Koblerville on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2009.

If you would like to volunteer your time to clean and beautify our island, please meet with brigade members at 8am at the entrance to the beach at COP. Volunteers will split into groups and go east or west, cleaning the beach and parking lots until 10am and break for drinks and then continue, if needed.

This month, outstanding brigade volunteers who participated in at least 10 monthly cleanups will receive a brigade cap and those who participated in at least three cleanups will receive a green brigade t-shirt.

For more information about volunteering, contact the DEQ office at 664-8500.

Ben-Eloy in TV talk show

The John Gonzales Live TV program will feature Gov. Ben Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos on Nov. 4, 2009, from 7pm to 8pm, to discuss their accomplishments and plans for next four years

NMI Descent for Self Government & Indigenous Rights spokesman Oscar Rasa, president Dolores M. Aldan, and John S. DelRosario Jr. will also discuss self-government and federalization in relation to indigenous rights and Covenant provisions. ***(PR)***

OBP Hall of Fame nominations due Nov. 10

Off the Beaten Path announces the presentation of its biennial Hall of Fame award. Nominations must be submitted by e-mail to obpcnmi@gmail.com by Nov. 10, 2009.

The Hall of Fame is a way of recognizing CNMI residents who have demonstrated an exceptional commitment to the social and cultural enrichment of the Commonwealth. OBP is now accepting nominations of individuals deserving of this award. Nominees must be a resident of the CNMI and should exhibit some or all of the following qualities: Interest in community service; Dedication to the advancement of humanity; Respect for cultural preservation; Volunteerism; Strong character and charisma; Leadership and Altruism.

This year's winner will be honored at the Thanksmas celebration to be held at the Hyatt Regency on Dec. 5, 2009. The proceeds from Thanksmas will be donated to the Autism Society of the CNMI.

ThanksMas is sponsored Peroni, Kendall Jackson and Skyy Vodka. Tickets are on sale now with any OBP member; send an email to obpcnmi@gmail.com or call 285-7677. ***(PR)***

Farmers meeting to elect SNISWCD administrators

The Department of Lands and Natural Resources and the Saipan and Northern Islands Soil and Water Conservation District will conduct a meeting to elect District Board Administrators on Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2009, at the Garapan Fishing Base in Garapan. In accordance with Public Law 4-44 that established the Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the CNMI, the election term is for Fiscal Year 2009-2012.

The event will be conducted by Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Dr. Ignacio T. Dela Cruz and will be from 6pm to 7pm at the Garapan Fishing Base in Garapan. We encourage all farmers and rancher to please attend this very important meeting.

Farmers and ranchers who would like to know more about this meeting can contact the local Saipan and Northern Islands SWCD office at 234-6180 and ask for Diana Gabaldo. ***(PR)***

Mary and Saints exhibit ongoing

The San Antonio Parish is inviting the people of Saipan to come and see the Mary and Saints Exhibit presently ongoing at the Parish Social Hall. For more information, contact the Parish Office at 235-4515. ***(PR)***

Chamber meeting tomorrow

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce's general membership meeting will be held tomorrow, Nov. 4, at Saipan Grand Hotel's Seaside Hall. The guest speaker will be Gerald Aevermann of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, which is the Department of Homeland Security component agency responsible for the on-the-ground security of the nation's borders. Aevermann will discuss CBP's mission on and following the November 28 implementation of the INA in the Commonwealth.

Registration and lunch will begin at 11:30am, and the meeting will begin at noon. The meeting is $15 for members, $20 for guests of members, and $25 for the public. ***(SCC)***

Thanks For Giving Walk has new date

The Team Courage sponsored walk has been rescheduled to Saturday, Nov. 14, 2009. The Thanks For Giving Walk is coordinated by CNMI cancer survivors and will be held at the Garapan Fishing Base, starting at 7am.

Participating in this event is an opportunity for families and friends to get a head start in fielding a team for the MMAC event next year. Veteran teams for the MMAC have already begun fundraising.

Interested in joining, but don't have a team yet? No worries! Contact Janine Nogis at 483-4207 or send an email to MMAC2010@googlegroups.com. ***(PR)***

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
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Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REVISED PUBLIC NOTICE

October 21, 2009

PORT OF SAIPAN PARKING

This is to inform the general public that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) installed a new system for the parking facilities at the Port of Saipan. The new system, which will begin operating on November 01, 2009, dispenses a plastic card upon entry and the card is returned when exiting. The system reads the elapsed time between entry and exit and indicates the appropriate charge.

The Port of Saipan will be given a grace period of ten (10) minutes. A fee of $1.00 will be charged when the elapsed time between entry and exit exceeds ten (10) minutes for the first hour and an additional dollar for each additional hour or a fraction of an hour.

The parking fee for the first hour is one dollar and an additional dollar for each additional hour or a fraction of an hour. The total charge for each 24-hour period is $10.00.

A customer who loses a parking card will be charged $10.00 for the lost card and will also be charged the appropriate parking fee for the time parked. The customer with the lost parking card may be required to park on the side to allow other customers to exit first and then give time for the parking booth attendant to check the system to resolve the matter.

A customer with a valid Handicap Placard will not be charged any parking fee as long as the handicap person who was issued the placard is present in the vehicle. All customers with a valid Handicap Placard should call the Port of Saipan administration division for further details.

All customers with parking permits, bus permits, and taxi permits should go to the Port of Saipan Admin office (2nd floor of Captain George F. Fleming Building) to exchange their current permit to a parking card.

All parking fees are non-refundable.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Louisa Yamada-Garon at (670) 664-3550.

/s/ EDWARD B. MENDIOLA
Acting Executive Director

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed Amendment of the Official Saipan Zoning Maps (Rezones)

We ask your comments on proposed amendments (rezones) to the Official Saipan Zoning Maps, sheet 23 (As Terlaje – next to NMC) and sheet 26 (along As Perdido road) from Village Residential to Village Commercial.

A public hearing will be held:

Date: Monday, November 30, 2009
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Zoning Office Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Joeten Building, DanDan

The proposed map changes may be viewed at Zoning Office, 2nd Floor Joeten Building, DanDan. After the public hearing, the Zoning Board will make a decision on whether to approve any or all of the changes to the Official Zoning Maps. Comments on the proposals may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office and must be received at the Zoning Office by 4:00 pm, Tuesday, December 1, 2009. Send written comments via e-mail to staff@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Office at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Saipan Zoning Law of 2007.

/s/ Henry S. Hofschneider, Chair.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 3, 1999

Congress tapped for PCB cleanup

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday said he would lobby the U.S. Congress for funding to clean up areas on the island contaminated with the cancer-causing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) chemical left behind more than three decades ago by American military forces. He also did not rule out the possibility of taking legal actions to compensate families suffering from the harmful effects of the contamination as he noted the Department of Public Health is expected to come up with a report on its impact in the community.

NMI turns over tower control to private firm

After years of waiting, the Federal Aviation Administration finally took over the operations of Saipan International Airport air control tower, a move which Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio said ensures the continuous provision of safety to all passengers. It was an event that Commonwealth Ports Authority Executive Director Carlos H. Salas has always been waiting for ever since Saipan tower was commissioned using local Saipan residents as controllers. The locals underwent rigorous training until they were certified in the Western-Pacific region in early February 1995.

Nov. 3, 2000

Republicans battle in open primary

The Republican Party is hoping to persuade majority of over 13,000 registered voters in the CNMI to troop to the polls for tomorrow's primary as the duel over who will be it's official bet for next year's gubernatorial election comes to an end. Polling booths in 12 locations on the three islands will be opened between 7:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. to accept voters during the open primary. GOP has deputized about 128 poll workers for the exercise. The Department of Public Safety has agreed to assist the party in maintaining peace and order around the polling places.

Continental resumes nonstop flights to Nagoya

Armed with the projected growth on the demand for more air transport services from Japan to the islands, Continental Micronesia is deploying nonstop flights between Nagoya and Saipan beginning April 1, 2001. The airline company will use its newly-acquired 737-800 aircraft, which can accommodate a maximum of 155 passengers, in the daily Nagoya-Saipan flights.

Nov. 3, 2002

No concrete plans yet for old dump

The Babauta Administration continues to explore ideas about the future of the Puerto Rico dumpsite once it is finally closed, as construction of the Marpi landfill is completed soon. This was disclosed by Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente, who is also the chairman of the Governor's Solid Waste Task Force. Benavente said the government's greatest challenge-apparently besides the ongoing financial woes-is what to do with the Puerto Rico dumpsite amid pressures from the Environmental Protection Agency to close it sooner.

USS Saipan marks 25th year

In Norfolk, Virginia, the USS SAIPAN marked the 25th year of its commission. A special ceremony and reception held on the USS Saipan was attended by CNMI Resident Representative to the United States Pete A. Tenorio. Tenorio spoke on the history of the Northern Marianas and also expressed his pride and honor being on board an immense vessel named after the tiny island of Saipan. AZ2 Christopher M. Garcia was another speaker who described his cousin's experience as a soldier in Saipan during World War II and the significance of the island's strategic location in the battle between the Americans and the Japanese.

Nov. 3, 2003

Voters drop incumbents

It will be a tug-of-war between the ruling Republican Party and neophyte Covenant Party—only on its second election—for the leadership at the CNMI Legislature, as nine Covenant and seven GOP candidates appeared to have made it through the Nov. 1, 2003 midterm elections. Also, almost sure to take a seat in the 14th House of Representatives are one Democrat and an independent candidate. The CNMI Commission on Election disclosed that more than 8,000 of the Commonwealth's 13,882 registered voters cast their vote Saturday.

Chamber to elect new officers, directors

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will be electing its officers and directors for 2010 tomorrow, Nov. 4, at the general membership meeting, which will be held at Saipan Grand Hotel's Seaside Hall.

Officers serve one-year terms. All four positions are open. The following eligible individuals accepted nomination:

- Doug Brennan – President
- Jim Arenovski – Vice President
- Mike Johnson – Treasurer
- Kathryn Barry – Secretary

Directors at large serve two-year terms. This year, the terms of directors Jay Santos and Alex Sablan expire. Accordingly, two positions are open. The following eligible individuals accepted nomination:

- Alex Sablan
- Vince Seman

Nominations of qualified individuals will also be accepted from the floor at the meeting. Voting forms will only be given to individuals listed as authorized company representatives on the Chamber's roster.

The meeting's guest speaker will be Gerald Aevermann of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, which is the DHS component agency responsible for the on-the-ground security of the nation's borders. Aevermann will discuss CBP's mission on and following the Nov. 28 implementation of the INA in the Commonwealth.

Registration and lunch will begin at 11:30am, and the meeting will begin at noon. The meeting is $15 for members, $20 for guests of members, and $25 for the public.

Brennan

FOR PRESIDENT
Doug Brennan
Microl Corporation

Doug is Vice President and General Manager of Microl Corporation. He received his BFA degree from James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Doug started with Microl Corporation in June 1984 and has held the following positions within the company: Assistant Manager Commercial Division; Manager Toyota Parts Department; Manager Toyota Service Department; After Sales Manager (Parts, Service, Body Repair); and Vice President / Assistant General Manager.

As the representative for Microl, Doug has been a Chamber member since 2003. Doug is Co-Chair of the Chamber's Armed Forces Committee, as well as the Chamber representative to the Governor's Civilian-Military Task Force.

Arenovski

FOR VICE PRESIDENT
Jim Arenovski
Delta Management Corporation

Jim has lived in the Marianas since 1987. Originally from Yarmouth, Massachusetts, Jim holds a Master's Degree in Administration from Georgia Southern University. In 1987, Jim left ITT Sheraton in Savannah, Georgia and started his career in the Marianas with The Inter-Pacifica Group as Special Projects Manager for Pacific Islands Club and then became the Area Manager for Domino's Pizza Group in Guam in 1989.

Initially hired by Shell Guam in 1991 as a Commercial Area Manager, Jim spent six years with Shell. He was promoted to the position of Saipan Area Manager and eventually became Regional Manager for Shell North Pacific, which includes Guam, Saipan, and Palau.

In 1998, Jim, with his two partners, formed Delta Management Corporation, a management company, which currently operates seven Shell Service Stations (four in Guam and three on Saipan). Delta Management also owns Prime Group, Inc., which is the authorized distributor of prepaid telecommunications products, including prepaid cellular phones and cards and long distance calling cards for PTI in the NMI and Guam.

Jim currently serves on the board of NMI Crime Stoppers and has been active in this program for many years and also sits on the Board of Directors of Crime Stoppers International.

Barry

FOR SECRETARY
Kathryn Barry
IT&E

Kathryn is the Marketing Manager for IT&E, where she manages all marketing and promotional activities for the company. Prior to working for IT&E, Kathryn was the Sales and Marketing Director for Coca-Cola Micronesia and an instructor at Northern Marianas Academy.

Prior to moving to the CNMI, Kathryn was with Coca-Cola Enterprises, in Baltimore, MD, managing customer service for national and regional wholesale Coca-Cola customers. She also worked in Coca-Cola North America Operations Marketing for four years.

After college, Kathryn accepted a position at the University of South Florida as the Coordinator of Public Functions, planning and coordinating campus events and managing a 2,000 seat multi-purpose events center. During her tenure with the university, she also was the Program Advisor/Coordinator for a nationally recognized honors program in the College of Education for current and future teachers.

Kathryn is a board member of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, serves on the Selection Panel for CNMI Teacher of the Year, is active in the Rotary Club of Saipan and volunteers her time with the WWII veteran groups that visit Saipan. In 2007, Kathryn was a CNMI nominee for the *Guam Business* 2007 Businesswoman of the Year and a nominee for the Saipan Chamber of Commerce Businessperson of the Year.

Originally from Florida, she studied Marketing Education at the University of South Florida and Business Management at the University of Phoenix, Maryland Campus.

Kathryn and her husband Jim have two boys, Chris and Bo.

Johnson

FOR TREASURER
Michael S. Johnson
Deloitte

Mike is the Managing Partner of Deloitte on Saipan and in Palau and is a long-time resident of Saipan. Mike held the position of Chamber Treasurer for three consecutive terms in the early 1990's and has been the treasurer of the Chamber since 2005.

Mike came to Saipan in 1982 after earning his Masters of Business Administration (emphasis in accounting) and Bachelor of Arts degrees at the University of Colorado in Boulder. He is a certified public accountant, a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, a member of the CNMI Society of Certified Public Accountants and past President of the CNMI Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants. Additionally, Mike was selected by Bishop Camacho to serve on the financial advisory committee of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa and is a past Chairman of the CNMI Board of Accountancy.

Mike is married to Betty Hamilton Johnson. They have three children, Kathleen, Sarah and Andrew. Mike participates in various sports including golf, kayaking, biking and triathlon. Mike is the current president of the Saipan Swim Club and treasurer of the Northern Mariana Islands Triathlon Federation and the Over the Reef Yacht Club.

Candidates for 2010 board of directors

Sablan

Alex S. Sablan
Saipan Shipping Company

Alex has been involved with the Chamber for nearly 20 years. Alex was the Chamber Representative for the regional Exclusive Economic Zone forum with Guam delegates and has served as Chairman of both the Government Relations and Economic Development Committee (GREL) and the Events Committee.

Alex is or has served as a Chairman or Board Member for the following organizations: member, Commonwealth Cancer Association; member, Guam Chamber of Commerce Maritime Affairs Committee; member, Board of Directors for the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands (HANMI); member, Advisory Board for the CNMI Public Radio KRNM 88/89.1 FM; Chairman for the Past Presidents Council of the Rotary Club of Saipan; President for the Association of Seaport Tenants and Operators of Saipan, Inc. (ASTOSI); and board member of the CNMI Contractors Association. He also previously served as the CNMI representative to the American Cancer Society Guam/CNMI Presence Unit Board of Directors; Chairman, 2000 American Cancer Society Relay for Life Event; President, Rotary Club of Saipan; board member, Rotary Club of Saipan; and Member of the Kagman Komunidat Association.

For the past fifteen years, Alex has held management positions in the transportation industry in Saipan and Guam. He currently works at the Saipan Shipping Company as its Marketing/Administration Manager. Prior to this, he was an owner's representative for a multi-diversified transportation company: heading Seabridge Micronesia as Managing Director; Pacific Air Inc., General Sales Agent for Northwest Airlines Passenger and Cargo Sales, as General Manager-Saipan and Micronesia; and Saipan Crew Boats and Saipan Pilots, as General Manager. Alex has also been the General Manager of Ambyth Shipping in Saipan.

Alex is married to Nora Mae Reyes Sablan and has children Amanda, Kanani, and Sean.

Seman

Vincent J. Seman
Carlsmith Ball LLP

Vincent J. Seman is an attorney with Carlsmith Ball in his fourth year of practice. He first obtained his license with the Hawaii bar where he worked for one year at Carlsmith's main office before transferring to its Saipan office. He concentrates his practice in the areas of labor and employment, civil and commercial litigation, criminal defense, banking, insurance, trust and estate, and real property.

Prior to becoming a lawyer, Vince gained valuable business experience holding simultaneous management positions for Mita Travel, GTS Construction, GTS Security, Paras Enterprises Saipan, and Herman's Modern Bakery for over 10 years. His other work experience includes filling the role of the CNMI's Alcohol and Drug Policy Coordinator at the Office of Personnel Management, where he initiated the random drug test program for government employees. Vince also served as member of the board of regents for the Northern Marianas College for over five years, with his last year as its chairman. He has been a longtime volunteer for the Red Cross and other non-profit organizations. Vince was a pioneer of the outrigger canoe sport on Saipan, including bringing the annual Micronesia Outrigger Cup to Saipan in 2000 and 2003.

Vince received his B.S. in Management from Bentley College in 1994. He earned his law degree from Whittier Law School in May 2006. While in law school, Vincent clerked for the Honorable U.S. District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands Chief Judge Alex Munson and served as research assistant to Whittier Law School Professor Christine Kelton. ***(SCC)***

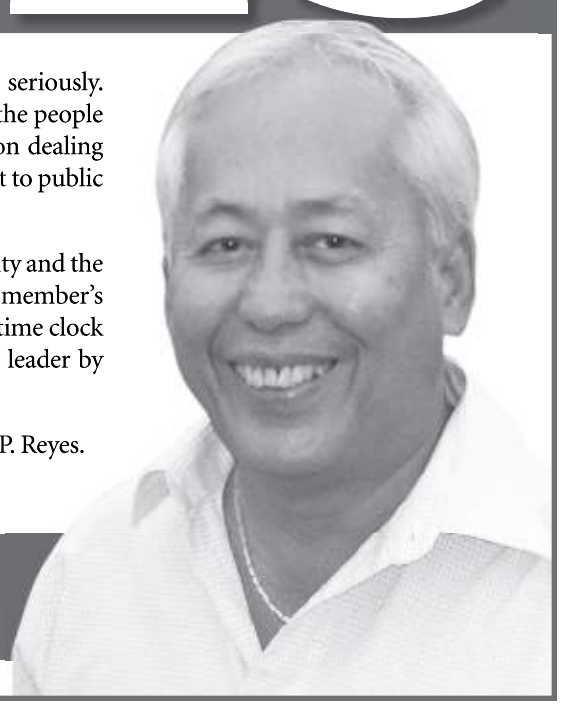
FOR SENATOR PETE P. REYES WHY NOT!

Legislative accountability for public funds is something Senator Reyes takes seriously. Every taxpayer funds should be used to improve the overall quality of life for the people of the CNMI, and Senator Reyes will fight to see that it does. In all legislation dealing with the use of taxpayer money, Senator Reyes makes certain that all are subject to public funds accountability.

Senator Reyes not only advocates for, but practices complete fiscal accountability and the proper use of public funds. In addition to itemizing the expenditure of his member's account, Senator Reyes accounts for his daily time and attendance by use of a time clock and for the use of his government vehicle in a trip log form. He is a proven leader by example!

On November 7th, vote for public funds accountability, vote for Senator Pete P. Reyes.

Why Not!



8 REYES, Pete Pangelinan (Republican)

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Senator Pete P. Reyes

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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MEMBER
The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

No one has a sure fix for the 'too big to fail' dilemma

In the ideal world of economics, firms that take excessive risks go bankrupt, their competitors pick up the pieces and the economy marches on. Some call it "creative destruction." In the real world, certain financial institutions are so big and so interconnected that their collapse—no matter how richly deserved—threatens plain old destructive destruction. Government steps in, with taxpayer money, to prevent that.

The problem of "too big to fail" is at the heart of the current crisis, in a double sense. Despite government disavowals, the perception that the feds would bail out the likes of Bear Stearns or Fannie Mae permitted such firms to pile on risk without corresponding discipline from the market, thus hastening the ultimate collapse. And, once the downward spiral began, the Federal Reserve and Treasury, armed with uncertain legal authority, faced a series of ad hoc choices as to which institutions to bail out and how.

Draft legislation before the House Financial Services Committee, which the Obama administration supports, rests on the assumption that too-big-to-fail is not only a reality but a reality that should be acknowledged in law. It seeks, in effect, to shape market perceptions by designating certain institutions, including not only banks but major players in the "shadow banking" sector, as eligible for government-led winding-down in a crisis.

In return for that security, they would face tighter regulation and higher capital requirements, so as to make it less likely that they would ever need a bailout in the first place. The measure prescribes procedures for any "resolutions" that might prove unavoidable. Among the bill's novel concepts is making financial institutions pay into a common fund to resolve failed giants, so taxpayers don't have to.

Yet while it is logical to admit the reality of too-big-to-fail, it is difficult to create the right mix of preventive incentives. For example: Should institutions pay into the insurance fund before one of them collapses, or after? Sheila Bair, chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., favors the former, so the government won't have to squeeze Wall Street in the middle of a panic. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner favors the latter, so that institutions have an incentive to stay out of trouble in the first place. The Federal Reserve would take a bigger role in policing strategic institutions. This will make good use of the Fed's expertise and independence—unless it erodes both by exposing the central bank to constant lobbying.

Policymakers seem to have rejected former Fed chairman Paul Volcker's proposal to separate commercial banks, which would enjoy a measure of government guarantee in return for heavy regulation of their risk-taking, from investment banks and other non-bank financial players, which would be free to trade in risky assets on the understanding that there would be no bailout. In theory, this would clarify market signals, thus restoring market discipline. Yet even under this plan the market might try to call the government's bluff. When it comes to solving the dilemma of too-big-to-fail, no one has a certain template—and all participants in the coming debate would be well-advised to remember that.

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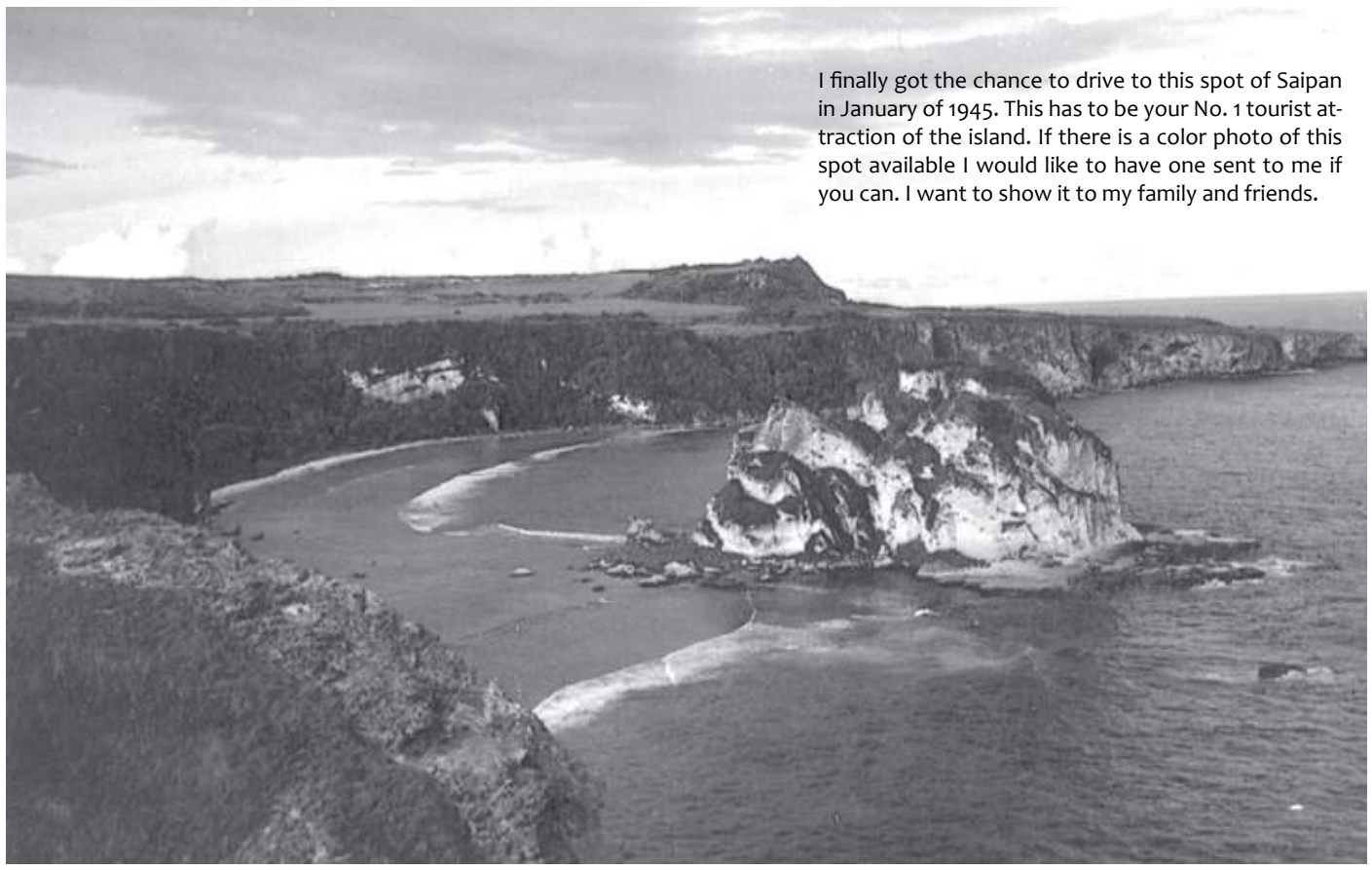
Letters to the Editor

Wartime memories

An Associated Press article was in our Birmingham newspaper a few days ago ("Typhoon skirts Mariana Islands"). I called the local Associated Press number in the phone book and I got the *Saipan Tribune*'s number from the man I talked to. I told him I was in the Navy and attached to a combat communications unit with the Marine Corp and participated in the invasion of Saipan in June 1944. I am presently 84 and have an album of pictures of all the places I went and of all the fellows I knew and was with during the three years I was in the Navy.

Pictures don't let you forget things. I made copies of a few pictures I would like to ask you about:



I finally got the chance to drive to this spot of Saipan in January of 1945. This has to be your No. 1 tourist attraction of the island. If there is a color photo of this spot available I would like to have one sent to me if you can. I want to show it to my family and friends.

The waves washing over the coral reefs. Another beautiful spot to see. We could see this well from our vantage point up to the lighthouse signal tower that we worked out of.

This picture shows the damage the Navy guns did to the lighthouse on the hillside above Tanapag Harbor. The Navy Seabees fixed it up temporarily so we could use it as our communication center for ships coming and going. The signalmen were set up under the tent topside and the ledge above that. We radio personnel were set up in the lower floor inside.

See WARTIME on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Letters to the Editor

Squeak-what?

More than a few of you are probably wondering what's going on with CUC and those huge penalties. Well, to be sure, those penalties are only the beginning; they will grow. You can't simply ignore federal requirements and hope those in charge will just go away. And you can't just "pay them" and then sit back on your laurels. You have to actually fix the problem—and this problem goes to the core of federal appearance on the world stage, not to mention the very well-being of our people: Air and water quality. This is far bigger than "just" a local issue.

Did our governor think he could quietly hide behind a blanket of geographical obscurity? His problem, as usual, is that old adage: "a squeaky wheel gets the grease." It seems there has been a LOT of squeaks coming from behind that blanket—a couple of them from the governor himself (think lawsuit and non-compliant Aggreko). Squeaks that amounted to a crescendo building in the ears of faraway big dogs. And faraway big-dog bureaucrats don't particularly cotton well to crescendos in their ears. Especially faraway big-dog bureaucrats who have the ability to reach out on a very long leash and use a very greasy thumb to squash squeaky squeaklings like squat with little deference to "good" grease or "bad" grease.

What those bureaucrats do like is a quiet little alcove of calm waters where the local government hums along with a popular political agenda (thus avoiding squeakability) and implemented by moral and ethical professionals who do not raise the people to a squeaking crescendo that has impact on the national agenda. After all, they have both ears full right now with national squeakiness over the economy, health-care and the war on terror.

All their greasy thumbs are quite busy and one more squeak, even from behind a faraway blanket, was sure to eventually bring a flailing thumb or two our way. Squeaks can be avoided by the grease of good leadership. Let's see what we can do about that on Saturday. Then, *maybe*, our wheels won't be quite so squeaky.

It would also be nice if some of those faraway big-dog bureaucrats could get a handle on their own moral and ethical professionalism.

Dr. Thomas D. Arkle Jr.
San Jose, Tinian

Not enough

Last Thursday, Oct. 22, I read in the newspaper that the suspect in the biggest drug bust in the history of the CNMI—about 1,021.4 grams worth almost a million dollars—will be sentenced to 10 years in prison. This is not enough for these kinds of people who mess around with drugs on our beautiful island. It would be better if they face a firing squad at Banzai Cliff so that no one imitates them.

Some of our loved one who are also under the influence of some kind of drugs can do things that are out of control like Mr. Ezra K. Deleon Guererro. I was surprised when I heard that he murdered his Korean friend, the owner the Star Market in Tanapag who would lend them credit for their daily needs. Ezra was a good man. He helped the community by volunteering in the Tanapag Church every fiesta and other events.

Even the driver of the governor also got involved in drugs. It's hard to believe or maybe it was only a frame up because of the election. It is much better the candidates who are running for public offices be tested for drugs to find out if anyone of them is positive. And for the master of drug lords to be meted out double life sentences. And the DEA will continue to investigate how drugs enter in CNMI.

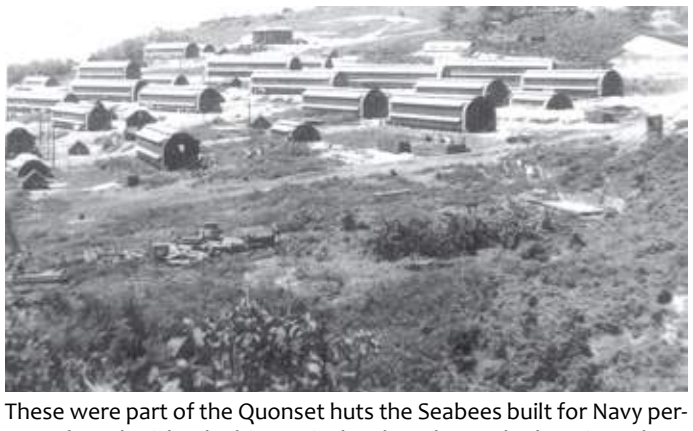
Teddy Guiao
Lower Navy Hill, Saipan

WARTIME

From Page 10

We used the tower while the Seabees rebuilt it to what it looks like in this picture. I was stationed at this location until December 1945, at which time I was sent home for discharge. I would like to know if the tower is still being used as a communications center for ships going in and out.

This is a picture of our signal tower, which was built by Seabees on the beach in Garapan. They handled all messages going to and from ships at that end of the harbor. In addition to being able to get messages to them by light, we could also reach them by teletype machine. This tower was probably about 60 to 65 ft. tall. Again, I would like to know if this particular tower is still there.



These were part of the Quonset huts the Seabees built for Navy personnel on the island. This particular shot shows the location where all of our communications personnel were located. We took up about six or seven of them.

The movie theater the Seabees built. This is where most of us spent time when we weren't on watch from 1800 to 2400. We took in movies and definitely the USO shows.

Coming from Louisiana I recognized what this building was the first time I saw it. I told my buddies about it being a sugar mill. I hope that this mill has been rebuilt and it's again being used.

This is a picture of a building in Garapan that still had its walls standing. There were very, very few like this in Garapan.

The most important question I would like you to find out for me. This little girl, who appears to have been 4 or maybe 5 years old, was spoiled by any one of our guys who knew her. The guys would give her snacks whenever we could get them and some guys even had toys sent to them from home to give her to take back to her camp. My question: She would be on her early 70's if she would still be on Saipan. Could you print her picture in your paper and see if you could find her? Let me know.

This statue appears not to have been touched in the invasion. Rumor had it that this man ran the sugar mill. If you can let me know what his name was and the reason for him being on a statue, I'll write that info on the backside of the picture I have in my album.

These damaged buildings are somewhere in Garapan. I assume they were either housing for the islanders or were buildings used for storage.

I doubt that this billboard sign built by the Seabees on highway over the mountain from the Navy base to the B-29 airbase would still be standing.

I know this is a long letter but when I read that article in our paper I had to look into finding how to get in touch with you. I hope this letter and picture catch up with you.

Lutz LaBruyere Jr.
Former RM2C US Navy, WWII

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Showers	▲84	▼76
Palau	Mostly Sunny	▲86	▼77
Yap	Showers	▲86	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲88	▼78
Pohnpei	Thundershowers	▲88	▼79
Kosrae	Mostly Sunny	▲88	▼77
Majuro	Showers	▲86	▼79

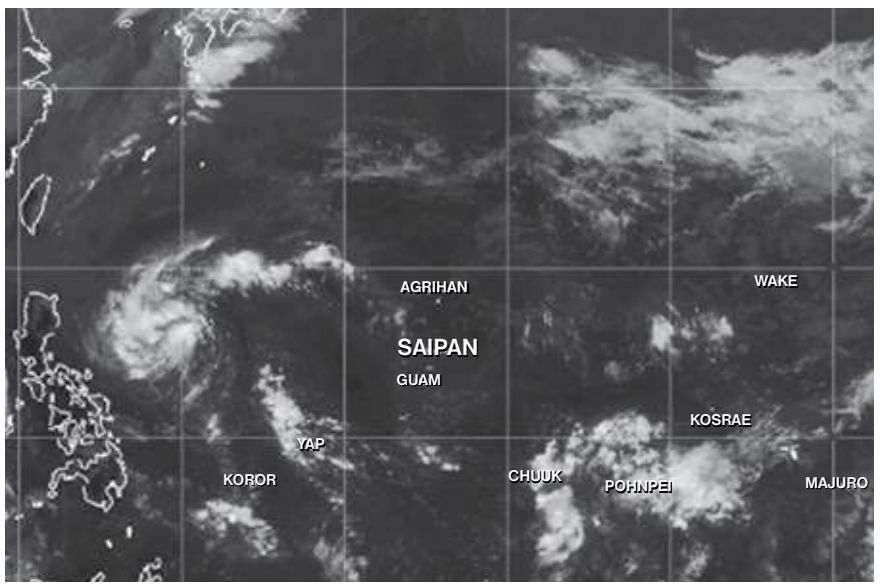
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	▲65	▼60
Beijing	Sunny	▲37	▼23
Hong Kong	Partly Sunny	▲77	▼61
Honolulu	Showers	▲82	▼72
London	Showers	▲52	▼46
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲87	▼60
Manila	Showers	▲88	▼76
Melbourne	Showers	▲81	▼58
Miami	Partly Sunny	▲87	▼74
New York	Sunny	▲59	▼47
Osaka	Showers	▲56	▼43
Paris	Showers	▲47	▼40
Pusan	Showers	▲50	▼32
Rome	Showers	▲62	▼52
Salem	Cloudy	▲56	▼39
San Francisco	Sunny	▲74	▼53
Seoul	Partly Sunny	▲39	▼28
Tokyo	Showers	▲59	▼42
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲60	▼44

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
1:01 AM Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
7:34 AM Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
1:11 PM Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
6:33 PM Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2009
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends from a circulation centered near 15N131E southeastward between Palau and Yap to 6N140E then eastward through a weak circulation south of Pohnpei at 4N156E to end near 5N165E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are west of a line from 17N132E to 15N132E and within 50 miles of a line from 19N132E to 19N136E and near Yap within 75 miles of a line from 12N136E to 8N138E and south of Palau within 80 miles of a line from 5N132E to 2N141E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms from Chuuk eastward across Pohnpei and Kosrae are in an area from 12N159E to 5N166E to 2N153E to 8N152E back to 12N159E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms northeast of Kwajalein atoll within 75 miles of a line from 13N171E to 14N176E and southeast of Majuro between the equator and 8N from 173E to 180.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:13 AM	5:48 PM
Tuesday	6:13 AM	5:48 PM
Wednesday	6:14 AM	5:47 PM
Thursday	6:14 AM	5:47 PM
Friday	6:14 AM	5:47 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:10 PM	5:21 AM
Tuesday	5:58 PM	6:18 AM
Wednesday	6:52 PM	7:19 AM
Thursday	7:51 PM	8:21 AM
Friday	8:53 PM	9:23 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 26, 2009

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

C09597	11:50am	12:25pm	1, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	12:50pm	1:20pm	1, 7

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:20am	5:10am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09597	11:50am	1:20pm	1, 7 via ROP
C09601	12:30pm	1:20pm	4, 5
C09603	3:30pm	4:20pm	Daily
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	1, 3, 4, 6

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	1, 3, 4, 6 via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/703	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:30pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

C09598	3:15am	3:50am	5, 6
C09312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	2:10am	2:40am	5, 6
C09312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09598	2:10am	3:50am	5, 6 via ROP
C09316	2:20am	3:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:20am	11:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
C09312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6 via ROP
C09602	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:55pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	4, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	2, 3, 5, 7 via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA-SAIPAN

OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
OZ704/605	11:50pm	2:30pm+1	3, 6 via ICN

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	4, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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Business

CIT files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection

WASHINGTON (AP)—Lender CIT Group has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, in an effort to restructure its debt while trying to keep loans flowing to the thousands of mid-sized and small businesses.

CIT made the filing in New York bankruptcy court Sunday, after a debt-exchange offer to bondholders failed. CIT said in a statement that its bondholders have overwhelmingly approved a prepackaged reorganization plan which will reduce total debt by $10 billion while allowing the company to continue to do business.

"The decision to proceed with our plan of reorganization will allow CIT to continue to provide funding to our small business and middle market customers, two sectors that remain vitally important to the U.S. economy," said Jeffrey M. Peek, chairman and CEO. Peek has said he plans to step down at the end of the year.

AP

In this July 20, 2009 file photo, the logo of the CIT Group is seen in New York.

CIT's move will wipe out current holders of its common and preferred stock, likely meaning the U.S. government will lose the $2.3 billion it sunk into CIT last year to prop up the ailing company. The government could have lost billions more, however, had it not declined to hand over more aid to the company earlier this year.

The Chapter 11 filing is one of the biggest in U.S. corporate history. CIT's bankruptcy filing shows $71 billion in finance and leasing assets against total debt of $64.9 billion. Its collapse is the latest in a string of huge cases driven by the financial crisis over the past two years, as bailed out industry heavyweights like General Motors and Chrysler both entered bankruptcy court.

Meltdown 101: Ford has suffered less than rivals

DETROIT (AP)—Ford Motor Co. has been riding a wave of positive public sentiment since it steered clear of bankruptcy protection and avoided taking federal bailout money—unlike its crosstown rivals, General Motors Co. and Chrysler LLC.

Worldwide market share is up. And at least two analysts are predicting a quarterly profit for the automaker, which is releasing its third-quarter earnings Monday.

But headwinds persist, including weak U.S. sales and labor troubles.

How has Ford managed to outperform its Detroit competition—and what challenges lie ahead? Here are some questions and answers.

Q: What is Wall Street expecting Ford to report for the third quarter?

A: That depends on who you ask.

Analysts surveyed by Thomson Reuters were predicting a loss of 13 cents per share, compared to a loss of $1.31 per share in the same quarter a year ago. But J.P. Morgan auto analyst Himanshu Patel predicts a profit of 16 cents per share, citing higher production, healthier margins and lower incentive spending.

Ford reported a surprise $2.3 billion profit in the second quarter, mainly due to debt reductions that cut annual interest payments. Ford says it aims to return to a full-year profit in 2011. The company lost more than $14.6 billion in 2008 and hasn't posted a profit since 2005.

Q: How did Ford escape bankruptcy protection and federal aid, unlike GM and Chrysler?

A: In 2006, Ford mortgaged its assets—including plants and its blue oval logo—for $23.4 billion to fund its turnaround plan. The credit markets later froze, making it impossible for its rivals to obtain similar financing.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

After stock market slide data take on new urgency

NEW YORK (AP)—After a forceful reminder that the third quarter is history, stock investors are now uneasy about the final months of the year. Stocks posted their biggest losses in four months Friday as traders worried that consumers won't be able to help lift the economy. Only a day earlier, investors celebrated news that the economy grew at the fastest pace in two years in the July-September period. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 200 points Thursday only to tumble 250 on Friday.

Geithner: Economy rebounding, but job growth lags

WASHINGTON (AP)—Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner acknowledges the federal budget deficit is too high, but that the priorities now are economic growth and job creation. Asked repeatedly on NBC's "Meet the Press" whether this means taxes will rise, Geithner avoided giving specifics. He did say President Barack Obama is committed to dealing with deficit in a way that will not add to the tax burden of people making less than $250,000 a year. The White House has not decided how to reduce the red ink, Geithner said in an interview broadcast Sunday.

Audit warns KBR to cut number of employees in Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP)—Pentagon auditors are warning the Army's primary support contractor in Iraq, responsible for everything from mail and laundry to housing and meals, to cut its work force there or face nearly $200 million in penalties for keeping thousands too many on the payroll. According to an internal Defense Department audit, Houston-based KBR Inc. has increased employee levels while U.S. troops steadily leave the country after more than six years of war. As a result, the U.S. government is paying far more in labor costs in Iraq than it should as military resources are shifted to Afghanistan. "Each day that passes without taking action results in continued overstaffing and inefficiency," the report from the Defense Contract Audit Agency says.

Nation

AP

This undated image provided by the U.S. Coast Guard shows from left: Petty Officer 2nd Class Carl P. Grigonis, 35, from Mayfield Heights, Ohio, navigator; Petty Officer 2nd Class Monica L. Beacham, 29, from Decaturville, Tann., radio operator; Petty Officer 2nd Class Jason S. Moletzsky, 26, from Norristown, Pa., air crew; and Petty Officer 3rd Class Danny R. Kreder II, 22, from Elm Mott, Texas, drop master.

Search for Calif. crash survivors now recovery

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The search for nine people missing when a U.S. Coast Guard plane collided with a Marine Corps helicopter over the Pacific Ocean is now a recovery mission, officials said Sunday.

Petty Officer First Class Allison Conroy said there was little chance of finding survivors among the seven military personnel aboard the Coast Guard C-130 and the two in the Marine Corps AH-1W Super Cobra helicopter.

"We always hold out some hope, but at this point the Coast Guard has suspended the active search for survivors," Conroy said.

The two aircraft collided Thursday evening as the Coast Guard was searching for a missing boater. The Marine helicopter was flying in formation with another Cobra helicopter and two transports on a nighttime training exercise.

The Coast Guard has begun its investigation into the cause of the crash, Conroy said.

Kenneth Claiborne, the father of one of the missing crew members on the plane, said Sunday that his son, Marine 1st Lt. Thomas Claiborne, had been declared deceased. He declined to comment further and referred calls to a Marine spokesperson.

Ohio coroner: 6 bodies found were homicide victims

CLEVELAND (AP)—Six women whose badly decomposed bodies were found at the home of a convicted rapist were all victims of homicide, the coroner's office said Sunday.

At least five of the women apparently had been strangled, said Powell Caesar, a spokesman for the Cuyahoga County coroner. Decomposition made it difficult to determine how the sixth died, he said.

Sowell

The bodies "could have been there anywhere from weeks to months to years," Caesar said.

None of the victims has been identified, Caesar said. Two were black, but the race of the others hadn't been determined, he said.

Anthony Sowell, a 50-year-old registered sex offender, was arrested Saturday when officers spotted him walking down the street of his east-side neighborhood.

Colorado county copes with methane mystery

WALSENBURG,Colo.(AP)—Bernice and Jerry Angely like to show visitors the singed T-shirt a friend was wearing when their water well exploded and shot flames 30 feet high.

The friend wasn't hurt. But that and an explosion at another home weeks earlier forced Colorado to suspend natural gas drilling around this southern plains town until someone could find out why dangerous levels of methane were getting into the groundwater.

Two years later, Walsenburg and surrounding Huerfano County are still waiting, its residents caught in a collision between two of the West's vital resources: Water and natural gas.

"The water is so saturated with methane and other chemicals it is not to be used for human consumption," said Bernice Angely, who's had water trucked to her home 10 miles west of town since her well blew up in July 2007.

ACROSS THE NATION

Bay Bridge won't be open for Monday morning drive

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—With another workweek and another commuter crush looming, there was still no word Sunday night on when the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge would be open to traffic again. But authorities said it certainly would not be functioning in time for the Monday morning drive. "We're not making a prediction on when the bridge will reopen," California Department of Transportation spokesman Bart Ney said at a news conference. Ney said crews still had to conduct more enhancement work and several more stress tests and inspections before the bridge would open.

Anguish over California teen suicides spurs action

PALO ALTO, Calif. (AP)—Grim news hit this university town in late October just two days before a PTA forum on teenage stress: Another Palo Alto teen had died after stepping in front of a commuter train, the fourth such suicide in less than six months. With hundreds of parents crowding the forum, school Superintendent Kevin Skelly told the anxious gathering that the latest death was "a cruel irony" because city officials were working to prevent another tragedy. "We have all experienced situations where, despite every effort, results fall short of our hopes," Skelly said. Experts have struggled to understand what generates clusters of teen suicides, a phenomenon that breaks into a community's awareness when they occur in a public place, as they did in Palo Alto. But officials in this San Francisco peninsula city of about 59,000 say they're deploying a wide array of approaches to stop it from growing.

Police: NJ mom stabbed son, self over custody fear

BERGENFIELD, N.J. (AP)—A New Jersey mother whose inability to understand English apparently misled her to believe that her children would be taken away stabbed her 8-year-old son with a steak knife, then tried to kill herself, police said. Elida Marroquin was charged with attempted murder, aggravated assault, child endangerment and weapons offenses following Saturday's incident at the family's home in Bergenfield. Bail was set at $500,000, and both she and the child were expected to recover from their wounds. Authorities were still working to confirm what country Marroquin is from and other personal details about her. More information was expected to be made public when she is arraigned on Monday.

Mayor San Nicolas invites you to visit
Tinian's newest tourist attraction
Kastiyu Wildlife Park
Soft Opening - May 4, 2007

A Report to the People of Tinian fr
ACCOMPL
"Working Together for a Bri

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

My Dear People of Tinian:

I want to thank the Tinian Chamber of Commerce for the invitation to the Mayoral Forum that they are sponsoring. However, albeit an honorable endeavor by a worthy organization, there is no significant benefit by appearing in front of a small group to state my administration's accomplishments in the past four years and layout my plans for the next four years. In contrast, this medium will assure that the information reaches the general public and can decide for themselves whether my past accomplishments and my future plans will justify my re-election. The Office of the Mayor of Tinian & Aguiguan is always open for any one who wishes to ask questions and express concerns. A private audience will ensure that concerns are afforded adequate time and attention. A forum, on the other hand, especially one that is not exposed to the media, is limited and subject to misconstruction of information. As the Official Head of our island I encourage peace in this volatile political season. Our island is small, and we all know each other well. Therefore, with this letter I hereby provide people access to accurate information on which they can formulate a well informed decision.

HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE:

Up to the first quarter of fiscal year 2009 my administration has thus far spent $196,067.97 on various educational programs sponsored by CNMI PSS, Tinian private schools and our local elementary and Jr/Sr High Schools.

$500,029.66 has been awarded to our college students eligible for municipal scholarships.

$93,851.19 has been spent on specialized training such as nursing, of which three of the graduates are already on internship program in our local health clinic, CLEA of which are currently serving as police officers, homeland security personnel, immigration, quarantine, and customs officers.

In three and a half years of my administration, $824,902.00 was sent on a proactive health program that promotes preventive medicine thereby elongating lives and, in the longrun, reducing the cost of medical referrals that, unfortunately, only addresses advanced, expensive and often incurable illness.

My administration also continued providing various support for the community in terms of family loss and tragedies as well as memorializing those who have served and fallen while serving in the United States Military. Furthermore, my administration, though the local Youth Center and the Department of Community & Cultural Affairs, have sponsored various self-enrichment seminars and conferences for parents and teenagers, continuing the programs for toddlers and pre-schoolers, as well as various community sports activities for both adults and the youth.

Along this line, it is important to continue our aesthetic programs. Our beautification endeavors promotes tranquility and pride among our people as well as visitors who will take the beauty of our island to their home land and encourage others to visit us. I am in total agreement of promoting our "Hafa Adai" spirit. However, we start this by knowing our origin, promoting our language, and fully appreciating our culture. While it is economically advantageous for us to establish tourist amenities such as wildlife and cultural parks, more importantly they also instill pride in our people encouraging our general welfare as a nation.

As we continue to explore various ways to stimulate our economy, my administration will continue supporting these programs despite our current depressed economy.

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENTS:

The Landfill project and Waste Transfer Station: are now at the stage of surveying identified land located at Atgidon and identifying the most appropriate site for a transfer station. Capital Improvement Projects such as these take time as there are still studies to be made. However, the environmental assessment has been completed, and we are now at the stage of requesting for proposals (RFP) for Architectural and Engineering Design (A&E).

Tinian Harbor Project: Over 50 years of neglect and storms resulted in our harbor deteriorating to the point where it posed a threat to public safety and interruption of commerce. My administration has previously declared a state of emergency allowing us to expediently restore the most deteriorated part of the harbor to safer condition. 1.3 million was awarded to a local contractor for this project. However, there are still areas of the harbor that are in desperate need of attention mitigating another declaration of emergency. We hope to complete this project within the next year.

Covenant Party
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
PLEASE VOTE COVENANT THIS NOVEMBER 7TH SO THAT WE MAY C

om MAYOR JOSE P. SAN NICOLAS
ISHMENTS
ighter Tomorrow for Tinian”

Road improvements include the resurfacing of Broadway, 3.1 million for restoration of rout 202 to include sidewalks allowing people to walk for their health, and 3.3 million for route 201 that is now undergoing the same. Our plan in the next four years is to identify funds for a complete Tinian Road Master Plan so that each administration thereafter can use it as guide to pursue funding until all the roads in Tinian are paved and are safe for our community.

STIMULATING LOCAL ECONOMY:

It is my hope that while I am in office, various industries will be encouraged for local participation especially in the area of aquaculture and agriculture. The abalone and various aquaculture experiments will provide necessary information on the feasibility and viability of aqua farming not only as means of economic growth but as an alternative to enjoying our cultural food while protecting our precious ocean life. Similarly, agricultural ventures, such as Noni, Copra, piggery, ranching, are encouraged. Many small businesses have started engaging in processing the Noni that were planted throughout the island into tea, dehydrated tablets, lotions and shampoos, etc. We are currently exploring the establishment of a market, through a foreign investor, for pork meat. These kinds of ventures must be pursued aggressively as they have always been a part of our culture, as well as a permanent means for economic growth and sustainability. It is my strong belief that a balanced import-export system must be achieved in order to continue growing economically. With the military build-up fast approaching, we need to be ready to support and meet its demands in order to benefit economically.

Other local programs that have generated revenue for the island include the wildlife park, the dog control program and the Municipal ID issuance. We will continue to explore many more as we struggle through this difficult economic period.

Meanwhile, the Gaming industry, although experiencing the same difficulties as our entire business community, is managing to stay open because of strong local support. I vow to continue working with key players in this industry so that we can continue enjoying its contribution to our community.

Any foreign investment that can demonstrate responsible development is welcome to do business in our islands. My administration has encouraged and will continue to not only encourage but look for ways to entice new investments. The free trade zone must be pursued. Using our own resources and ingenuity to offer a shovel ready investment may also lure many investors who would be discouraged by the debilitatingly lengthy and costly permitting process.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES:

Due to our depressed economy, many of our businesses have scaled down their operations or have shut down. With the slow turn around of our economic condition, it is critical for the government to play a role in sustaining employment. I strongly believe that shutting down and scaling down government operation will affect the ability of our people to spend and will ultimately bring our economic activities to a definite halt. My administration's search for resources, no matter how meager – often resorting to natural resources, to continue operation and maintain employment has been one of my greatest challenge in this office. However, I am proud to say that with ingenuity and the ability to improvise we have survived and will continue to survive in the next four years, if economic condition does not improve.

SOLUTIONS TO A LONG TIME PROBLEM:

14% Salary Increase due to employees under PL 7-31. This debt will be finally paid from MPLT Funds.

A 2nd Emergency declaration will pave the way to fix the long time deterioration of the Tinian Harbor.

These are among the many innovative ways to fix problems in our community rather than saying yes we can, let us just do it. **YES WE DID** and yes we can are two very distinct different approaches to our problems.

Thank you for your time, and I encourage every one of you to visit my office at any time during its open hours and ask questions or express your concerns and if you will, offer solutions to keep us afloat or to bring us out of the tough time we face ahead of us.

Sincerely,

JOSE P. SAN NICOLAS
Mayor of Tinian & Aguiguan

ONTINUE THE PROGRESS FOR A BRIGHTER TOMORROW FOR OUR BEAUTIFUL COMMUNITY.

Asia

AP

Afghanistan's presidential challenger Abdullah Abdullah gestures after announcing his decision not to participate in Afghanistan's run-off election during a press conference in Kabul, Afghanistan, Sunday, Nov. 1, 2009.

Afghan's Karzai effectively handed 2nd term

KABUL (AP)—President Hamid Karzai was effectively handed a second five-year term Sunday when his only challenger dropped out of the race, and the Obama administration said it was prepared to work with the man it has previously criticized to combat corruption and confront the Taliban insurgency.

President Barack Obama has been waiting for a new government in Kabul to announce whether he will send tens of thousands of new troops to Afghanistan. The war has intensified and October was the deadliest month of the eight-year war for U.S. forces.

Former Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah announced his decision to quit six days before the runoff election, after last-minute talks led by the U.S. and United Nations failed to produce a power-sharing agreement acceptable to Karzai, according to a Western diplomat who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the negotiations.

In an emotional speech, Abdullah told supporters that he could not accept an runoff led by the same Karzai-appointed election commission that managed the fraud-marred vote in August. The runoff was set for Nov. 7 after U.N.-backed auditors annulled nearly a third of Karzai's votes as fakes.

"I will not participate in the Nov. 7 election," Abdullah said, because a "transparent election is not possible." The Obama administration, which had been critical of Karzai's leadership, appeared to accept the outcome.

North Korea demands direct talks with US

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea pressed the United States to accept its demand for direct talks on the communist regime's nuclear program, warning Monday that Pyongyang "will go our own way" unless Washington agrees.

North Korea's Foreign Ministry did not elaborate in the statement carried by state media, which appeared to be a threat to enlarge its nuclear arsenal.

The statement came as North Korea's No. 2 nuclear negotiator, Ri Gun, wrapped up a rare trip to the U.S., where he met with the chief American nuclear negotiator, Sung Kim, amid media speculation the two discussed bilateral negotiations.

North Korea has demanded direct talks with Washington since conducting a series of nuclear and missile tests and quitting six-party nuclear negotiations involving China, Japan, the two Koreas, Russia and the U.S. earlier this year.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Philippines: No ransom for kidnapped Irish priest

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine government rejected a $2 million ransom demanded by the kidnappers of an ailing Irish priest in the country's volatile south and said Sunday that efforts would continue to safely secure his freedom. The kidnappers of the Rev. Michael Sinnott have released a video in which the 79-year-old missionary says his captors are demanding $2 million in exchange for his freedom. The video, broadcast Saturday on GMA TV network, sparked hope among his fellow Columban missionaries after rumors circulated that he had died while in jungle captivity. The video, which was reportedly obtained by government negotiators, shows Sinnott holding a copy of the Philippine Daily Inquirer dated Oct. 22—11 days after about six gunmen snatched him as he was strolling in the garden of his residence in southern Pagadian city.

16 killed in Philippine slum fire, including kids

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A fire swept through a residential building as people slept in a slum community in the central Philippines on Monday, killing 16 residents including women and children. The fire started after midnight Monday and rapidly spread because of strong winds, gutting the wooden two-story apartment building and more than 60 nearby shanties in Bacolod city, Fire Marshal Pamela Candido said. Several people leapt from windows at the height of the fire but others failed to wake up in time to save themselves, Candido said. "Some mothers perished with their children," Candido told The Associated Press. "It was really tragic."

Vietnam evacuates coastal areas as storm nears

HANOI, Vietnam (AP)—Vietnam evacuated coastal areas Monday as tropical storm Mirinae approached after battering the Philippines, where it left 20 people dead. Mirinae weakened as it headed over the South China Sea and was downgraded from a typhoon to a tropical storm. It was expected to strike Vietnam's central coast sometime Monday afternoon. Vietnamese authorities evacuated 20,000 people from coastal provinces, far fewer than they moved in advance of Typhoon Ketsana, which slammed Vietnam in September, killing 160 people.

Rescue under way after boat sinks off Australia

SYDNEY (AP)—An urgent search and rescue mission was under way Monday for about two dozen people missing after their boat sank in open seas far off Australia. Merchant vessels that responded to a distress call managed to pluck 17 survivors from the Indian Ocean late Sunday and were searching for others, Australia's Home Affairs Minister Brendan O'Connor said. About 40 people were believed to be aboard the boat when it went down near the Cocos Islands, sparsely populated atolls about 1,500 miles (2,400 kilometers) northwest of the Australian coast and about 800 miles (1,300 kilometers) south of Indonesia.

World

Iran says UN-backed nuclear deal is not dead

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—Iran said Monday it has not rejected a U.N.-backed plan aimed at limiting the country's ability to make nuclear weapons as it called for a technical panel to review its terms.

Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki told reporters in Kuala Lumpur that Iran conveyed its stand to the International Atomic Energy Agency two days ago. Mottaki is in Malaysia to attend a meeting of foreign ministers of eight Islamic countries.

His statement could be seen as a softening of Iran's stand after senior Iranian lawmakers rejected the plan on Saturday. Earlier last week, Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad also said his government will persist with its nuclear program despite international concerns.

Asked if this meant Tehran has rejected the deal, Mottaki simply said, "No."

The U.N.-brokered plan would require Iran to send about 2,600 pounds (1,200 kilograms)—or 70 percent of its low-grade uranium stockpile—to Russia in one batch by year's end for processing. Subsequently, France would convert the uranium into fuel rods that would be returned to Iran for use in a reactor in Tehran that produces medical isotopes.

"We have considered these proposals. We have some technical and economic considerations on that. Two days ago, we passed our views and observations to the IAEA, so it is very much possible to establish a technical commission in order to review and reconsider all these issues," Mottaki said.

Asked when the panel would meet, he said that was up to the IAEA. He refused to elaborate.

If Iran accepts the U.N.-backed plan, it would not be able to replenish its stockpile to levels that would again yield enough enriched uranium for further enrichment into weapons-grade material for about a year.

Since its clandestine enrichment program was revealed seven years ago, Iran has amassed more than 3,300 pounds (1,500 kilograms) of low-enriched uranium at its cavernous underground facility at Natanz.

It is relatively simple to turn fuel-grade uranium into weapons-grade material. The West fears Tehran wants to do just that although Ahmadinejad's government says it is not interested in nuclear arms and wants only to create fuel for a planned network of reactors.

Kirkuk at the heart of Iraq election law deadlock

BAGHDAD (AP)—Iraqi politicians have been turning up their rhetoric over Kirkuk, the oil-rich city that both Kurds in the north and Arabs in the south want to control.

The dispute has caused a deadlock over the country's election law, threatening to delay Iraq's nationwide elections set for mid-January. Any vote setback could, in turn, disrupt American plans to withdraw troops from Iraq, scheduled to ramp up after the vote.

"We are getting to a crisis," said Marina Ottoway, director of the Middle East Program at the Washington-based Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. "They have been trying for over a year to reach a compromise on Kirkuk."

"Now," she warns, "it is becoming a problem for the United States."

For years, tensions have simmered over Kirkuk and its surrounding province of about 1.3 million people, 180 miles (290 kilometers) north of Baghdad. Boasting an ancient citadel, it is in many ways an ordinary, if somewhat shabby, Iraqi city.

But it sits on a political and cultural fault line among ethnic Kurds and smaller groups of Arabs and Turkomen, or ethnic Turks. Vast oil fields, dotted with flaming smoke stacks, lie just to the north and west, raising the stakes.

Mexico reaches record of 100 extraditions to US

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexico set a new high in extraditing criminal suspects to the U.S. on Sunday, reaching a total of 100 so far this year in what the U.S. Embassy called a "record for bilateral cooperation between the two countries."

The milestone underscored the long distance the two countries have come since the 1990s, when Mexico was so loath to send fugitives north of the border that U.S.-paid bounty hunters kidnapped a suspect in Mexico and took him back themselves.

"This is a great day for U.S.-Mexican partnership and cooperation. And obviously, a very bad day to be a bad guy," said U.S. Embassy charge d'affaires John Feeley.

WORLD BRIEFS

Clinton in Morocco to meet with Arab leaders

MARRAKECH, Morocco (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton arrived in this North African city early Sunday for a series of meetings with Arab leaders to discuss Middle East peace and other issues. The top U.S. diplomat, on the last stop of a weeklong Mideast trip, is praising Israel for "unprecedented" concessions in the interest of restarting peace talks with the Palestinians, but her shuttle diplomacy produced no sign of a breakthrough. The Palestinians on Saturday rejected Israel's offer to show "restraint" in settlement construction in the West Bank, rather than completely halting building. Clinton spoke approvingly of the Israeli offer, knowing it is at odds with the prevailing Palestinian view.

Israel nabs serial attacker of Arabs, leftist Jews

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israeli authorities have arrested a Jewish-American extremist suspected of carrying out a series of high-profile hate crimes, security officials said Sunday. Police and Shin Bet security forces say Jack Teitel, a 37-year-old ultra-Orthodox Jewish West Bank settler, was behind the killing of two Arabs, the targeting of a peace activist and an attack on a breakaway Jewish sect over a period of 12 years. Authorities originally suspected an extremist Jewish underground for some of the attacks. But acquaintances described Teitel, a father of four, as a lone wolf, and authorities say he acted alone.

Mozambique vote: Incumbent president, party lead

MAPUTO, Mozambique (AP)—Incumbent President Armando Guebuza leads in Mozambique's elections by a wide margin, with more than 80 percent of votes counted. Results so far give Guebuza more than 76 percent of the presidential vote, and his Frelimo party between 75 and 80 percent of parliament's 250 seats. Lucas Jose, a National Elections Commission spokesman, said Sunday it may take more than a week for remaining results to come in from remote regions. Presidential and parliamentary elections were held Oct. 28. Foreign observers deemed voting free and fair.

Overdrive

Asians top auto reliability; Ford cars score well

By TOM KRISHER
AP AUTO WRITER

DETROIT (AP)—Asian automakers are still building the most reliable cars and trucks, with eight of the top 10 brands from Japanese and Korean companies, according to an annual survey by Consumer Reports.

But several models from Ford Motor Co. are now consistently scoring above Honda and Toyota, the perennial leaders.

While Toyota's youth-oriented Scion brand finished first for the second year in a row, several Ford models, including the midsize Ford Fusion and its cousin, the Mercury Milan, consistently have been at or near the top of their classes, a trend that led Consumer Reports editors to declare that Ford is now making some vehicles with world-class reliability.

After Scion, Honda, Toyota, Infiniti and Acura rounded out the top five brands in reliability based on surveys taken in March of subscribers who own or lease 1.4 million vehicles.

"Ford is definitely doing something right," said Rik Paul, the magazine's automotive editor.

Ford's Detroit-area competitors, General Motors Co. and Chrysler Group LLC, didn't fare as well, however.

Chrysler had only one model that Consumer Reports recommended based on reliability and its staff test, and the Chrysler brand finished last out of 33 brands sold in the U.S. One third of Chrysler's models were much worse than average in reliability.

Six models from GM were recommended by the magazine, but it's still inconsistent. Only 21 of 48 models the magazine studied scored average or better in reliability.

The relatively poor performance by GM and Chrysler could hurt efforts to fight back from financial problems that led to stays in bankruptcy court earlier this year. Auto industry officials say the nonprofit Consumer Reports is among the most widely consulted sources when people buy vehicles.

Officials at GM and Chrysler say they are committed to improving quality.

At Ford, though, four-cylinder versions of the Fusion and Milan finished second in the family car category, beaten only by Toyota's Prius gas-electric hybrid. The Fusion and Milan outscored Toyota Motor Corp.'s Camry and Honda Motor Co.'s Accord, the two top-selling cars in the U.S. "which many people view as the paradigms of reliability," Paul said.

Of the 51 Ford, Lincoln or Mercury models in the survey, 46 were ranked average or better in reliability.

AP

In this Nov. 17, 2008 file photo, the 2010 Ford Fusion Hybrid is seen at the Ford Product Design Center in Dearborn, Mich. Asian brands again dominated Consumer Reports' 2009 car and truck reliability survey, but several Ford Motor Co. models, including the midsize Fusion, were as dependable or better than the industry's best.

Yet while Mercury was the only Detroit brand to finish in the top 10 (10th), the Ford brand finished 16th, while Lincoln finished 20th. That's largely due to higher-end models—many with all-wheel-drive—scoring below average in reliability, said Jake Fisher, Consumer Reports' senior automotive engineer.

"Those types of problems are keeping them from being truly world class," Fisher said.

Bennie Fowler, Ford's vice president of global quality, said the company is applying the same methods that worked with the Fusion and other models to the ones that didn't perform as well. The company constantly listens to customer complaints and tracks warranty claims to improve quality, he said.

"We know that the quality levels today have to be greater tomorrow," he said.

Toyota, despite a recent spate of recalls, and Honda consistently build cars that cause few problems for Consumer Reports readers, Paul said. Ford, he said, is approaching that consistency, and while GM has some bright spots, it still has a ways to go to match the Japanese.

The Dodge Ram pickup, the only Chrysler model recommended by the magazine, did well in road tests and was average in reliability. The recommendation is important, though, because the Ram is Chrysler's top-selling model.

Paul said automakers often can only make quality improvements when new models come out, and those have been few for Chrysler in the last two years.

"Hopefully for them, when they do release new models, they will still have the same level of quality that we saw in the Ram," he said.

Honda's Insight hybrid was the most reliable vehicle in the survey, while the Volkswagen Touareg was the least reliable.

The Consumer Reports survey also found that higher-priced cars aren't necessarily more reliable than less-expensive ones. Inexpensive small cars and midsize family sedans were the most reliable in the survey, which questions subscribers about 17 potential problem areas.

Complete results are in Consumer Reports' December issue, which was due out Nov. 2, or today for subscribers to the Consumer Reports Web site at http://www.consumerreports.org.

2009 Mini Cooper Wagon falls short of rivals

By WARREN BROWN
THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON—I wanted it too much. It was bound to disappoint. It did.

The 2009 Mini Cooper Clubman, the base model driven for this column, was not what I thought it would be.

It was cute. It turned heads. That was fun.

But in the merchandise pickup bays at several Virginia home improvement stores, it was outdone by less expensive urban wagons, including the Hyundai Elantra Touring; the Pontiac Vibe, which is also sold as the Toyota Matrix; and the Honda Fit Sport.

It was fantasy blown to bits by reality. As the longtime owner of a Mini Cooper hatchback car, I should've been prepared for this. But I was blindsided by unrealistic expectations of the elongated Clubman wagon.

Here's the deal:

Urban wagons are small haulers of people and stuff, brilliantly agile in tight city traffic, easy to park, zippy, fun to drive, not bad to look at, and easy on the wallet at point of sale and, later, at the gas pump.

The tiny hatchback Mini Cooper car scores well in agility, parking and fun-to-drive. But its charm is its size—145.6 inches front to rear, a bit more than 12 feet long in a world of behemoths often double its curb weight (factory weight including vehicle fluids, but minus passengers, cargo and aftermarket options) of 2,568 pounds.

Driving the Mini Cooper hatchback is like piloting a go-kart; it's like being behind the wheel of a car in a cartoon movie. It goes zip-zip, beep-beep in a world of zoom and honk! It's a car that makes you smile.

AP

The 2009 Mini Cooper Clubman wagon has zippy performance and cute looks but falls short on utility and common sense.

But it's nobody's darling when it comes to practical living. It gets 27 miles per gallon in the city and 37 miles per gallon on the highway. But it requires premium gasoline—and that's "requires" with no exceptions.

The Mini Cooper hatchback car doesn't carry much, which is why Germany's BMW, maker of the Mini, extended the hatchback 9.4 inches and added two rear swing-out doors and a small rear access door on the passenger side, thus turning it into the Clubman wagon.

The alterations were done prettily—enough to seduce me into believing that, somehow, a major miracle had been worked in the small wagon segment. I was partially right. But the miracle was more a work of design and marketing than it was a matter of automotive innovation.

Certainly, the Clubman is the cutest little urban wagon you'll ever see. But it's also one of the dumbest. Try getting into a back seat of the Clubman using that slit of rear door in a crowded parking lot. The front passenger door of the Clubman opens one way. The skinny rear door opens another. Meanwhile, on the other side of the car, the driver's side, the driver is standing with the driver's door open and the driver's seat pushed forward to allow entry to the second rear passenger. It's madness! It's a circus!

And when everybody has been shoveled into the longer, heavier Clubman—heavier than the Mini Cooper hatchback by 155 pounds—it still accommodates only four people, same as the smaller, lighter Mini Cooper hatchback.

The Clubman's maximum cargo capacity is 33 cubic feet, nine more than what are available in the Mini Cooper hatchback, but considerably less than the 65 cubic feet of cargo space offered by the Hyundai Elantra Touring, which also has seats for five people.

The Elantra Touring also has a bigger engine—2-liter, 138-horsepower inline four-cylinder compared with a 1.6-liter, 118-horsepower inline four-cylinder in the Mini Cooper hatchback and Clubman.

NUTS & BOLTS

BY WARREN BROWN
THE WASHINGTON POST

THE BOTTOM LINE: Zippy performance and cute looks aren't everything. If BMW is serious about giving us a serious urban wagon, it should pay attention to what Hyundai is doing in this segment. Were I now in the market for an urban wagon, I'd buy the Elantra Touring and get more utility, more power and as much safety for a lot less.

COMPLAINT

Once you live with the Clubman on a daily basis, you realize that it might've made more sense to buy something else.

RIDE, ACCELERATION AND HANDLING

A longer body with more weight and the same engine equals less enjoyable road performance in the Mini Cooper Clubman compared with the Mini Cooper hatchback. But it still gets good marks in all three.

BODY STYLE/LAYOUT

The Mini Cooper Clubman is a small, front-engine, front-wheel-drive urban wagon with two full-size side doors, one small rear access door on the passenger side and two swing-out rear doors.

ENGINE/TRANSMISSIONS:

The Clubman wagon comes with a standard 1.6-liter, 16-valve engine that develops 118-horsepower at 6,000 revolutions per minute and 114 foot-pounds of torque at 4,250 revolutions per minute. The engine is linked to a standard six-speed manual transmission. A turbocharged, 172-horsepower version of the 1.6-liter engine is available. Also available is a six-speed automatic transmission.

CAPACITIES

In the Clubman, there are seats for four people. Cargo capacity with the rear seats up is 9.2 cubic feet. Capacity is 33 cubic feet with the rear seats down. The fuel tank holds 13.2 gallons of required premium gasoline.

MILEAGE

Combined city-highway mileage of 32 miles per gallon.

SAFETY

Standard equipment includes ventilated front disc brakes/solid rear discs; electronic braking assistance; electronic stability and traction control; and side and head air bags.

PRICE

On the 2009 Mini Cooper Clubman, the base price is $20,200. Dealer's invoice price on that model is $18,180. Price as tested was $25,350, including $4,500 in options (primarily onboard navigation and leather seat covering) and a $650 destination charge. Dealer's price as tested is $22,880. Prices are sourced from BMW, Edmunds.com and Cars.com, an affiliate of The Washington Post.

Life & Style

Cub Scout Pack 913 holds Raingutter Regatta

The Cub Scout Pack 913 on Saipan held its second Raingutter Regatta—the sailboat equivalent of the Pinewood Derby—last Oct. 21, 2009, with Wallynson Wally and his speedy *Island Cruise* beating out other competitors to emerge as the overall winner.

Each of the Pack's eight Cubs constructed a sailboat from a kit consisting of a seven-inch long balsa wood hull, a 6-1/2 inch mast, plastic sail, plastic rudder, and metal keel. Within the basic design rules, the Scouts were free to paint, decorate and name their sailboats as they choose.

Besides Wally, other Cub sailors and their boats for this competition were David Igisair with the USS *John*, Kenyon Schultz with *The Tsunami*, Carter Smith with the USS *Patriots*, Ben Esplin with the *Rise of Darkrai*, Noah Santa Maria with *The Ark*, CJ Lambat with *The Skull*, and Elias Lowe with *The Earth Ship*.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Wallynson Wally and his speedy *Island Cruise* beat the competition to emerge as the overall winner of the second Raingutter Regatta.

Members of the Cub Scout Pack 913 on Saipan show off their sailboats for the second Raingutter Regatta, held on Oct. 21, 2009.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The boats are raced in a standard rain gutter that is 10 feet long, placed on a table and filled to the top with water. The boats are propelled by the scouts blowing on the sail. The first boat to reach the end of the gutter is the winner. Each Cub had the opportunity to race seven times. Wally's *Island Cruise* performed decisively with a total of five wins.

Cub Scout Pack 913, which is chartered by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, holds weekly Den meetings and four Pack meetings a year that showcase recognized Cub Scout events such as the Raingutter Regatta, the Pinewood Derby, the Father/Son Cakebake and Cubmobile Races. ***(PR)***

HEAD START CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Head Start Program Administration and Board of Education officials pose with outgoing Head Start Policy Council officers and community representatives. From left, Keiko Yamagata, Head Start Program director; Lorna Hofschneider, Tinian HPC Rep; Malou Ernest, HPC secretary; Gene Weaver, HPC vice chair; Lucy Blanco-Maratita, BOE chair; Vinnie Sablan, HPC chair; Efrain Atalig, Rota community rep; Tanya King, BOE HPC liaison; Pat Coleman, Saipan community rep; Viola Guerrero, Saipan community rep; and Malua Peter, Family and Community Partnerships Manager.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Incoming Head Start Policy Council officers pose with Community Representatives. From left, Efrain Palacios, Chalan Kanoa HPC rep; Augusta Famaw, Tinian HPC rep; Omar Tesero, San Antonio HPC rep; Wallace Chong, Tanapag HPC rep and HPC treasurer; Emily Nauta, Oleai HPC rep and HPC secretary; Gene Weaver, Kagman HPC rep and HPC chair; Anthony Barcinas, Rota HPC rep; Malou Ernest, Garapan HPC rep and HPC vice chair; and Minerva Mike, Dandan HPC rep.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The first Head Start Policy Council meeting for school year 2009-2010 was held Oct. 20 at the Napu Room of the Pacific Islands Club, where plaques of appreciation were handed out to outgoing officers and community partners. The meeting was followed by a Governance Training for all incoming officers.

SCHOOL GROUPS MVA

The Northern Mariana Islands received this school group from Japan and others in October 2009. The proximity of the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota to Japan and historic ties between the two lands make the CNMI a popular destination for Japanese school groups.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy, happy birthday greetings going out to a dynamic mother/son duo, Ms. Raena C. Sablan and Regino Celis IV, who is celebrating his 5th birthday! Greetings coming out from Cousin/Uncle Charisma and the rest of the familia! Hope the both of you have a great one…

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 4th birthday going out to Angelia L. Pua. Enjoy your day and may you have many, many more birthdays to come! We love you! Greetings coming out from your Dad and Mom and from all your familia.

Happy birthday greetings to my little sis, Anigonia "Nanning" Quitugua! May you have a fabulous and great day! Much love coming from your family, and your Big Bro, "Charisma."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

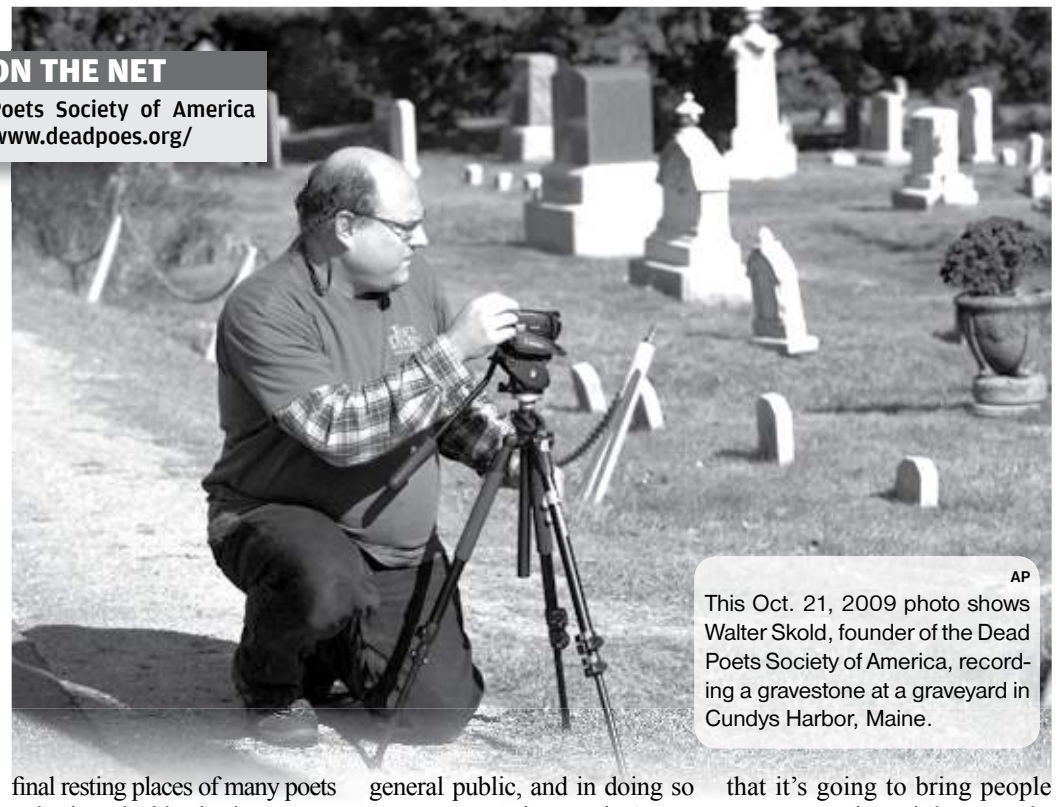
Happy birthday going out to Joanne Oliverio of Trendz Beauty Salon! Coming out from all your friends! Have a great one, Ms. Thang!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Founder of Dead Poets Society visits bards' graves

ON THE NET

Dead Poets Society of America
http://www.deadpoes.org/



AP

This Oct. 21, 2009 photo shows Walter Skold, founder of the Dead Poets Society of America, recording a gravestone at a graveyard in Cundys Harbor, Maine.

By DAVID SHARP
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

CUNDY'S HARBOR, Maine (AP)—On the big screen, the leader of the Dead Poets Society at an all-boys prep school was an inspirational teacher played by Robin Williams.

In real life, it's a balding amateur poet who drives around in his "Poemobile," visiting and documenting the graves of dead poets and calling attention to their works.

Walter Skold, founder of the Dead Poets Society of America, just finished a three-month road trip in which he visited the graves of 150 poets in 23 states. Skold boasts that he set a literary land speed record of 1.66 gpd (graves per day) over the course of his 15,000-mile journey.

While his graveside poetry readings - and occasional cemetery sleepovers - evoke the macabre, Skold insists his intentions are honorable.

"It's not really a morbid project but rather a way to honor our literary forebearers and to historically resurrect their works," Skold said.

His reports, which sometimes include offbeat tombstone art, are posted online; he encourages others to get out and find the graves of dead poets and to post their video and photos online.

Skold, 49, of Freeport, founded Dead Poets Society of America a year ago, leaving his job as a public school technology teacher to pursue his passions of poetry and photography. For his trip, he bought a used cargo van with a rack for cameras and supplies, shelves for books and a desk that, in a pinch, doubles as a bed.

Over the course of his 90-day journey, Skold visited the gravesites of giants of the poetry world including Robert Frost, Walt Whitman, Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, as well as lesser-known poets like Dudley Randall, whose Broadside Press published many leading African-American writers.

He's making a film documentary called "Finding Frost: Digging Up America's Dead Poets." Next year, he hopes to scout out America's dead poets buried in Europe.

He was especially intrigued by poets who've been forgotten altogether. He calls them the "doubly dead" because they suffered a second death when their works were "slowly consigned to literary oblivion." Some of those include Madison Cawein, Eugene Fields, Virginia Boyle and Elizabeth Hollister Frost, he said.

Skold also discovered that the final resting places of many poets - dead or doubly dead - are unknown. In Maine alone, he found 29 poets whose final resting places are a mystery to the public.

"So many of these individual poets have such interesting stories and such interesting lives that I really feel it's a shame that they've been lost to our literary imagination or our literary history," he said. "I'm trying to bring back people's works and lives who have value and who have been forgotten for one reason or another."

The Library of Congress believes Skold's effort is the first such literary undertaking, said Peter Armenti, digital reference specialist whose focus is poetry.

Many of the poets' grave locations are well-documented, but only to scholars and poetry buffs, Armenti said. Skold's effort attempts to make the poets' information accessible to the general public, and in doing so generate some interest in America's poets.

"I just think it's a fascinating project," Armenti said. "I'm glad somebody's doing it."

Skold's project has the blessing of nine state poets laureate, each of whom was enlisted to participate in poetry readings during his road trip.

South Carolina's poet laureate joined Skold at Magnolia Cemetery in Charleston for a reading of a poem by Henry Timrod, whose work is believed to have inspired Bob Dylan.

"It's quirky and interesting in the best way," Marjory Wentworth said from South Carolina. "My hope, long-term, is that it's going to bring people to poetry who might not otherwise be interested. Anything that increases the audience for poetry is a good thing."

In Tennessee, poet laureate Margaret Vaughn said she respects Skold's ambitious goal. She, too, has been documenting poets' graves, as well as writing original poetry for each.

"I know what it takes. I've been doing it for 10 years. He's got the passion. That's what it takes to do this, passion," she said from her studio in Bell Buckle, Tenn.

On a recent afternoon, Skold was in Cundy's Harbor at the burial site of Robert P. Tristram Coffin, who won the Pulitzer Prize for poetry in 1936. The Poemobile, named for Edgar Allan Poe, was parked across the street with the bumper sticker, "I brake for old graveyards."

Wearing a T-shirt from Poe's Tavern in South Carolina, where Poe spent a year in the Army, Skold quickly set a video camera on a tripod and then used a rake from a neighbor and a copy of Coffin's poem "An Old Man Raking Leaves" to create tombstone art on a brisk autumn day.

He likes to surprise with his tombstone art.

For example, he placed a scarlet "H" on the tombstone of Nathaniel Hawthorne, who penned "The Scarlet Letter." At Longfellow's memorial, he set fire to a portrait of the poet's second wife to underscore her fiery death, which tormented the poet and inspired "The Cross of Snow."

Skold encourages others to take up his cause on All Saint's Day by going to graveyards, preferably during the day, to document poets' graves and read their poetry.

Visiting a graveyard at night can be a dicey proposition and requires special permission. Skold learned that lesson the hard way last Halloween when he was nearly arrested in Malden, Mass., where he and his son lit torches at the tomb of the Rev. Michael Wigglesworth, Puritan author of the "Day of Doom."

"Little did I know that there was a little woman who watches over the cemetery and she told the police that there were people performing satanic rituals," he said.

Limbaugh calls Obama 'immature, inexperienced'

WASHINGTON (AP)—From his home and on a friendly network, Rush Limbaugh lobbed pot shots across the airwaves Sunday at President Barack Obama—"immature, inexperienced, in over his head," offering the country "radical leadership" and laying siege to the economy.

"We'll let Mr. Limbaugh foment," responded the White House's chief political strategist, dismissing the conservative commentator with the reported $400 million contract ("I'm probably worth more," Limbaugh said) as no more than an entertainer and not really the right guy to give "lectures on humility."

Limbaugh

The banter began on the hourlong "Fox News Sunday," Limbaugh the lone guest, interviewed from his home in Palm Beach, Fla., on a network the Obama administration has labeled as the voice of the far-right wing of the Republican Party. Obama adviser David Axelrod swung away later in the morning from Chicago on CBS' "Face the Nation."

One question in, Limbaugh said that his country had "never seen this kind of radical leadership at such a high level of power," that "I have to think" the administration is bent on destroying the private sector on purpose, amounting to "a denial of liberty, an attack on freedom."

He said Obama's swift rise to the White House after "a five-minute career" makes him a "man-child president."

"I think he's got an out-of-this-world ego. He's very narcissistic. And he's able to focus all attention on him all the time. That description is simply a way to cut through the noise and say he's immature, inexperienced, in over his head," Limbaugh said.

Axelrod, one of two guests on the 30-minute CBS broadcast, weighed in with cutting comments of his own.

"I think it's a surreal day when you're getting lectures on humility from Rush Limbaugh. ... The fact is that he is an entertainer. The president has to run the country," Axelrod said.

"We walked into a difficult situation. I think he's handling it very, very well. And most people believe that," he added.

Limbaugh belittled Obama's surprise, middle-of-the-night trip last week to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware to observe the return of 18 flag-covered cases holding the remains of Americans killed in Afghanistan. "It was a photo op" designed to "create the impression that he has all of this great concern," he contended.

Axelrod said Obama went to Dover "to represent the American people and pay his respects to the families who had made so much of a sacrifice, to those brave service people who made the ultimate sacrifice. It was the appropriate thing to do, and I think most Americans appreciate that."

As Limbaugh predicted that a second Obama term "would be painful," Axelrod got the final word:

"There's no surprise that Rush Limbaugh espouses the views that he espouses. He does it every day on radio. He's marketing the outrageous. And he does very well with it. But as I said he's an entertainer. We've got bigger responsibilities."

Adios Tata Mami & Chelu Mami
A Celebation Into A New Life

Melvin Joseph Saures Warakai
April 3, 1965 – October 13, 2009

Joseph was called home by our heavenly Father at the age of 44

In his new life, Joseph now joins his:
Father: †Francisco Ogarto Warakai
Mother: †Maria Igisomar Saures Warakai
Extended Mother: †Margarita Baza Villanueva
Extended Father: †Juan Pangelinan Delos Santos (Bolis)
Extended Rear Father: †Joaquin Pangelinan Villanueva (Talu)

Grandparents: †Ramon & +Agirda Ogarto Warakai
†Vicente & +Dolores Igisomar Saures
†Jose C. & +Dolores Torres Blas Baza
†Pablo V. +Josefa Iriarte Pangelinan Delos Santos
Brother: †Francisco Ramon Saures Warakai
†Gary Glen Baza Villanueva

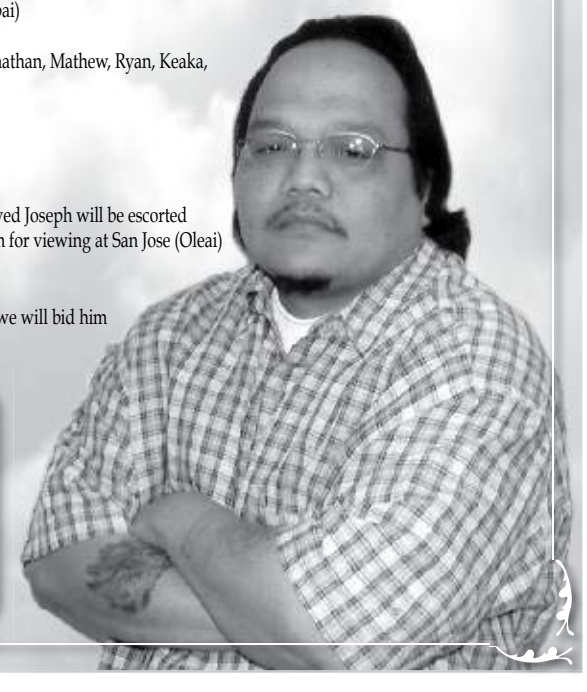
Our dad's love and legacy will forever live on in the hearts of his families:
Sons: Ike Jeremy Kaipat & Ethan Kilelemen (Kinisha, Kiara Kassidy)
Kevin Jason Kaipat & Dorsia Adolfo (Carli Rose)
Daughter: Francella K. & Tyron Joe Ongelungel (Ayana, Cherry Jean, Vanessa, Tyron, Misty)
Sisters: Rebecca W. & Nelson Inoke (Franklin Rick, Kaishia Maria)
Janet Villanueva & Donald Kilelemen (Desiree, Maragarita, Donald Jr, Joaquin)
Catherine Villanueva (Wayne Jack, Julie Anna, Delwayne, Jr.)
Patricia Mae Villanueva & Dustin Kolish (Kelvin , Cierra, Jacey Mae, Tessianna, Ethan Alan)
Dolores Villanueva (Edward Joaquin, Justin Jobai)
Arlene B. Villanueva
Brother: †Gary Glen & Maureen Villanueva (Vanessa, Jonathan, Mathew, Ryan, Keaka, Jackielyn, Antonia)

Godparents: Jose (George) & Janice Sablan
Mercedes S.& +Estanislao Palacios

Last Respect will be on Wednesday, November 4th. Beloved Joseph will be escorted from Nuestra Senora Dela Paz's Funeral home at 7:30am for viewing at San Jose (Oleai) Church. Mass will commence at 11:00am.

Interment will follow at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery where we will bid him Farewell and a peaceful rest.

BROKEN CHAIN
Little did we know that God would call your name?
In life we loved you dearly; in death we do the same
It broke our hearts to lose you, you did not go alone
For part of us went with you, the day God called you home
You left us peaceful memories; your love is still our guide
And though we cannot see you, you are always at our side
Our family chain is broken and nothing seems the same
But as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again
-Author unknown-



Defections, court fights test Scientology

By ERIC GORSKI
AP RELIGION WRITER

The Church of Scientology is going through a difficult season.

Over the course of two days last week, a French court convicted the church of fraud and Oscar-winning filmmaker Paul Haggis' resignation from the church over a litany of concerns was aired publicly. On one hand, it was just another bad press week for the embattled institution founded in 1953 by the late science fiction writer L. Ron Hubbard.

But for former Scientologists and scholars of the movement, the setbacks pose a greater challenge coming on the heels of defections of top-level Scientologists who lifted a veil of secrecy on the organization and alleged a culture of violence and control under Hubbard's successor, David Miscavige.

"With any organization, the loss of a substantial number of your most experienced people and chaos at the upper levels is problematic," said David Bromley, a Virginia Commonwealth University professor who studies new religious movements and has written on Scientology. "There are PR implications, the possibility of legal actions ... That dwarfs the other things."

The church has strenuously denied the allegations against Miscavige, portraying the accusers as lying disgruntled ex-employees.

Church spokesman Tommy Davis said Scientology is flourishing, with more than 8,000 Scientology churches, missions and groups in 160-plus nations. He said assets and property holdings have doubled over the past five years, including a new church in Rome and another opening this weekend in Washington, D.C.

"From our perspective, things are going pretty great," Davis said. "In fact, that's downplaying it. Actually, what's happening with the church right now is frankly spectacular. To the degree there are these various things happening, it really is a lot of noise."

One major survey of American religion shows Scientology declining in the U.S., however. The estimated number of Americans who identify as Scientologists rose from 45,000 in 1990 to 55,000 in 2001, then plummeted to 25,000 in 2008, according to the American Religion Identification Survey.

Davis said that while the church avoids membership estimates, it's "absolutely in the millions" globally and growing in the U.S.

AP
In this Sept. 18, 2004 photo, confetti rains down as U.S. actor Tom Cruise, left, embraces leader of the Church of Scientology, David Miscavige, during the official opening of a new Scientology church in central Madrid.

Scientology has long been controversial. The Internal Revenue Service granted the church tax exemption in 1993 after a nearly four-decade battle over whether it should be considered a religion. Critics say Scientology is a business, preying on people by charging exorbitant sums for services.

The church continues to fascinate, fueled by interest in celebrity adherents such as Tom Cruise, John Travolta and Kirstie Alley, as well as beliefs that don't fit into typical American religious boxes.

Hubbard taught that the "thetan," the equivalent of a spirit, can be cleared of negative energy from this and previous lives through a process called auditing. With the aid of auditors, Scientologists seek a state called "Clear" and then advance through various levels of "Operating Thetan."

The allegations of violence were leveled by four former high-ranking Scientology executives who told their stories to the St. Petersburg Times last summer. The executives said they witnessed Miscavige, chairman of the board that oversees the church, hit staff members dozens of times and urged others to do the same.

Davis called the allegations "absolutely, unquestionably false" and "sickening and outrageous." ABC's "Nightline" aired a report this month covering much of the same ground.

To critics of Scientology and ex-members who have grown increasingly vocal in recent years, it's a breakthrough - critical voices from former members of the inner circle, not the media or outsiders.

"When you have dozens of people speaking out, it's no longer too credible to say they're all malcontents and criminals," said Jeff Hawkins, a former Scientology marketing guru who defected in 2005. "(The church) is either going to reform or collapse, and I think it's going to be the latter because they're incapable of reform or admitting any wrongdoing."

One defector, Marty Rathbun, who served on the church's board and was a top lieutenant of Miscavige's, said a growing movement of people hold to the tenets of Scientology, but reject the institutional church.

"I don't foresee another church," Rathbun said. "That was the first attack on me - that this was a coup, that I'm trying to tap a schism or start another church ... That's not an objective of mine or a positive way to go."

Haggis, the Oscar-winning director of "Crash," was not a high-ranking Scientologist. But his defection is significant, said actor Jason Beghe, who left the church in 2007 and has become a critic.

"He was somebody the Scientology community was proud of, and therefore I'm sure he helped hold some of their base in place," said Beghe, who appeared in the film "G.I. Jane" and TV's "Everwood" and is cast in Haggis' next film, now shooting in Pittsburgh. "Anybody who is a Scientologist is harboring doubts."

It was Rathbun who obtained a copy of Haggis' critical letter to Davis and posted it on his blog. Haggis complained that Davis didn't do enough to distance Scientology from proponents of California's gay marriage ban. He criticized the church's "smearing" of the high-level defectors.

The filmmaker also wrote about the church's practice of "disconnection," in which members cut off contact with loved ones who leave or advocate against the religion - something Davis said is not mandated.

A day after Haggis' letter went public, a Paris court convicted the Church of Scientology of fraud and fined it more than $900,000, but stopped short of banning the group's activities in France. The organization's French branch likened it to a modern-day Inquisition and said it would appeal.

Cash bail offer to be filed for Polanski on Monday

PARIS (AP)—A French lawyer for director Roman Polanski, imprisoned in Switzerland, says a new bail offer will be filed Monday and it will be a "very, very significant" cash amount.

Swiss authorities rejected an offer Friday, considering the 76-year-old filmmaker awaiting a decision on extradition to the United States a high flight risk. They noted it was not a cash offer.

Herve Temime told France-Info radio Sunday the latest offer is in cash. He wouldn't say how much. He said Polanski would accept the extradition decision "whatever it is" and assured his client would never behave "like a fugitive."

Polanski, arrested Sept. 26, is wanted in the U.S. for having sex with a 13-year-old girl in Los Angeles in 1977. Polanski fled the U.S. before sentencing.

New film to sponsor Fox's 'Family Guy' special

NEW YORK (AP)—Fox network says an upcoming movie has stepped in for Microsoft to sponsor next Sunday's "Family Guy" special.

The upcoming Warner Bros. feature "Sherlock Holmes" will be the sole sponsor of "Family Guy Presents: Seth & Alex's Almost Live Comedy Show." A sneak preview from the December release, starring Robert Downey Jr. and Jude Law, will air during the broadcast.

Last week, Microsoft abruptly backed out as sponsor of the half-hour comedy-variety program, which stars "Family Guy" creator Seth MacFarlane and Alex Borstein, who, like MacFarlane, provides voices for the animated series.

The software giant explained that the often racy "Family Guy" style might clash with the Windows brand the company planned to promote on the show.

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Michael Jackson's This Is It
Friday 4:30 7:15 9:45
Saturday 1:00 4:30 7:15 9:45
Sunday 1:00 4:30 7:15
Mon thru Tues 4:30 7:15
Michael Jackson
Musical, Documentary • Rated PG
Synopsis
A rare glimpse into the final days of Michael Jackson, the documentary is compiled from an estimated 80 hours of rehearsal and behind-the-scenes footage of the legendary entertainer preparing for his 50 sold-out shows at London's O2 Arena that were scheduled to commence in July 2009 before his untimely death in June at age 50. Interviews with collaborators and close friends of the late performer are also featured.

Astro Boy
Friday 4:15 7:30 9:40
Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:30 9:40
Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:30
Mon thru Tues 4:15 7:30
Freddie Highmore, Nicolas Cage
Action, Comedy • Rated PG
Synopsis
Set in futuristic Metro City, the tale of a young robot with incredible powers created by a brilliant scientist named Tenma. Powered bypositive "blue" energy, is endowed with superstrength, x-ray vision, unbelievable speed and the ability to fly. Embarking on a journey in search of acceptance, Astro Boy encounters many other colorful characters along the way. Through his adventures, he learns the joysand emotions of being human, and gains the strength to embrace his destiny.

Cloudy With A Chance of Meatballs
Friday 4:10 7:05 9:35
Saturday 1:05 4:10 7:05 9:35
Sunday 1:05 4:10 7:05
Mon thru Thurs 4:10 7:05
Anna Faris, James Caan
Animated, Children, Adaptation • Rated PG

Vampire's Assistant
Friday 4:00 7:25 10:00
Saturday 1:20 4:00 7:25 10:00
Sunday 1:20 4:00 7:25
Mon thru Tues 4:00 7:25
John C. Reilly, Chris Mssoglia
Adventure, Fantasy, Children • Rated PG 13

Law Abiding Citizen
Friday 4:25 7:00 9:30
Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:00 9:30
Sunday 1:25 4:25 7:00
Mon thru Tues 4:25 7:00
Jamie Foxx, Gerald Butler
Thriller • Rated R

Saw VI
Friday 4:05 7:10 9:50
Saturday 1:10 4:05 7:10 9:50
Sunday 1:10 4:05 7:10
Mon thru Tues 4:05 7:10
Costas Mandylor, Betsy Russell
Horror • Rated R

The Stepfather
Friday 4:20 9:55
Saturday 4:20 9:55
Sunday 4:20
Mon thru Tues 4:20
Dyland Walsh, Sela Ward
Thriller, Horron • Rated PG 13

Where The Wild Things Are
Friday 7:20
Saturday 1:30 7:20
Sunday 1:30 7:20
Mon thru Tues 7:20
Katherine Keener, Mark Ruffalo
Fantasy, Children • Rated PG

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'This Is It' tops charts with $101M worldwide

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Michael Jackson's This Is It" pulled in $101 million worldwide in its first five days, and distributor Sony is extending the farewell performance film beyond its planned two-week run.

The film was the No. 1 Halloween thriller domestically with a $21.3 million opening weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The previous weekend's No. 1 movie, Paramount's low-budget horror sensation "Paranormal Activity," slipped to No. 2 with $16.5 million, lifting its total to $84.8 million.

"This Is It" raised its domestic total to $32.5 million. The movie pulled in $68.5 million overseas, including $10.4 million in Japan, $6.3 million in Germany, $5.8 million in France and $3.2 million in China.

"He's just loved everywhere on the planet," said Rory Bruer, head of distribution for Sony. "It doesn't matter if it's Asia, Africa, Australia, Europe, South America. Every continent in the world loved him and his music."

In Great Britain, where Jackson had planned a marathon series of 50 London concerts starting last July, the movie earned $7.6 million.

"This Is It" captures Jackson in behind-the-scenes performances in the weeks before his death last June, as he rehearsed his biggest hits for the London shows.

"This Is It" originally was scheduled for a theatrical run of only two weeks. The studio has extended it a few more weeks domestically, leaving it in theaters through Thanksgiving weekend, one of the year's busiest moviegoing times.

Sony plans to extend the run of "This Is It" overseas on a country-by-country basis, with most territories probably getting one to three weeks of extra playing time, Bruer said.

The studio paid $60 million for film rights to Jackson's rehearsal footage, an investment the movie recouped in days.

"They bet $60 million on this and got $101 million in just five days," said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com. "It was a gamble and a bet that paid off."

The movie fell far short of last year's $31.1 million opening weekend domestically for "Hannah Montana & Miley Cyrus: Best of Both Worlds Concert." But Bruer said "This Is It" has a shot at surpassing the $65.3 million domestic total during the entire run of Cyrus' movie, which tops the all-time charts for music documentaries.

Worldwide, "This Is It" already has shot past Cyrus' concert film. Cyrus mainly appeals to American teens, and her movie got only a limited release overseas, where it took in about $5 million to give the film a global total of just over $70 million.

AP

In this film publicity image released by Sony Pictures, the movie poster for Michael Jackson's "This is It" film is shown.

1. "**Michael Jackson's This Is It**," $21.3 million.
2. "**Paranormal Activity,**" $16.5 million.
3. "**Law Abiding Citizen**," $7.3 million.
4. "**Couples Retreat**," $6.1 million.
5. "**Saw VI,**" $5.6 million.
6. "**Where the Wild Things Are**," $5.1 million.
7. "**The Stepfather**," $3.4 million.
8. "**Astro Boy**," $3.04 million.
9. "**Amelia**," $3 million.
10. "**Cirque du Freak: The Vampire's Assistant**," $2.8 million.

"This Is It" played in 3,481 theaters domestically, about five times the number for Cyrus' movie. But "Best of Both Worlds" ran in 3-D, for which theaters typically charge a few dollars more.

And Cyrus' young fans are an audience segment that tends to rush out to see movies over opening weekend, the movie doing nearly half its business in the first few days.

Sony hopes for a longer shelf life for "This Is It," which drew older crowds that catch movies on their own schedule, with less regard for the opening-weekend frenzy. Fans older than 25 accounted for 62 percent of the audience, according to Sony.

While "Paranormal Activity" led Halloween's scary movies, an established horror franchise lost its fear factor as Lionsgate's "Saw VI" fell sharply in its second weekend after an anemic debut.

"Saw VI" came in at No. 5 this weekend with $5.6 million, raising its total to just $22.8 million after 10 days. Previous sequels in the serial-killer series all had topped $30 million during opening weekend alone.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com; final figures will be released Monday.

HBO filmmakers get inside Obama campaign

NEW YORK (AP)—Pivotal presidential campaigns are frequently defined in retrospect by documentaries.

"The War Room" chronicled Bill Clinton's political operation in 1992, adding a phrase to the political lexicon in the process. Alexandra Pelosi's "Journeys With George" captured the oddities of a national campaign on board George W. Bush's airplane in 2000.

The makers of "By the People: The Election of Barack Obama," which premieres Tuesday—Election Night—on HBO, wouldn't mind the same status.

"That was our hope—that we would create something for history," said filmmaker Alicia Sams, who made the documentary with colleague Amy Rice and a key assist from actor Edward Norton.

Rice was inspired by Obama's speech to the Democratic National Convention in 2004 and wanted to do a film about him as an up-and-coming political leader. Her friend Sams signed on, but they couldn't get their phone calls to Obama's office returned until Norton called on their behalf. He's still involved as a producer.

They got lucky. They wound up with a far more important story than they had dreamed about.

Even though they began filming nearly a year before Obama announced his candidacy in February 2007, being on the ground early didn't guarantee them anything. They were nearly shut down when the campaign began.

AP

In this publicity image released by HBO, a scene is shown from the documentary film, "By the People: The Election of Barack Obama," premiering Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2009 on HBO.

Obama aides like David Axelrod didn't want Rice and Sams around. He worried about leaks and whether the presence of cameras would cause people to act like they were in a reality show—concerns that proved amusing in retrospect. Access was a constant concern.

Iowa became their centerpiece. They stuck close to Obama through his early campaigning there, catching moments like a 9-year-old boy making phone calls to drum up support. After three hours of shaking hands, a weary Obama says, "It's like I've been through a wrestling match."

Through the crowds and contact, the filmmakers sense Obama catching on as he moved toward an impressive victory in the Iowa caucuses. The film introduces audiences to the people around Obama, not just top aides like Axelrod and David Plouffe, but the enthusiastic Ronnie Cho, Obama's Polk County organizer. Their discipline and meticulous planning were evident. It was the birthplace of a movement, and whether Obama eventually won or lost the presidency, Rice and Sams felt Iowa gave them a film.

"It was part of the story nobody knew," Rice said. "When he won Iowa, people started to pay attention."

Norton said the campaign's emotional restraint impressed him.

Obama is shown riding in an elevator after having just clinched the Democratic nomination and a film crew member remarks, "You must be feeling pretty good." The basketball-loving candidate just says, "You don't cut down the nets for the conference championship."

"He just seemed so unflappable and what you wondered was, `I wonder if behind the doors it's like the war room, you know, everybody's cussing at each other and they're furious," Norton said. "When you got around behind the private spaces with them, it was the same."

Obama saw a rough cut of the film and sent back word that he cried upon seeing the emotional reactions of his staff members to his election.

Displays of affection between parents, children win praise

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: Thank you for your response to "Alarmed in Apple Valley" (Aug. 28), who was concerned because her teenage nephew shows so much affection toward his mother. I raised a very affectionate son who, to this day at age 30, hugs and kisses me no matter where we meet. I raised him with the principle that because he is male does not mean he has to hide his feelings as generations before him did. My daughter-in-law tells me often that she could not ask for a better husband and father to her children.

Americans coddle girls when they hurt, but a boy is supposed to "take it like a man" and not express his feelings. I am pleased to know other mothers out there are also raising their sons to be well-rounded, emotionally healthy men.

PROUD MOM OF A NAVY SON

DEAR PROUD MOM: I advised the "Alarmed" aunt that she was off base in her concerns, and the majority of readers who wrote to comment agreed. Read on:

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Have we become so cynical in this day and age that genuine affection is looked upon as dirty and unsavory? How sad!

My 22-year-old daughter hangs on me and smooches me (and her father and grandparents) in public. It's a great feeling for parents to know their kid loves them and isn't embarrassed to be seen with them. (Too many of them are.) The aunt who complained about her nephew kissing his mother on the cheek and putting his arm around her may have intimacy problems that she's projecting onto her sister.

LESLIE IN SELMA, CALIF.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I hope "Alarmed in Apple Valley" doesn't end up doing what my sister did when she saw the display of affection between my 11-year-old daughter and me, her dad. My sister's "concern" prompted her to coerce her adult son into visiting my clergyperson about it. A short investigation found me innocent of wrongdoing but left me with my innocence violated. Relationships were drastically altered—especially between my sister and me. Eventually, I came to realize why she was so suspicious of abuse. She herself was willing to abuse—the church, her son, her brother and her niece.

WISER NOW IN SALT LAKE CITY

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I was never prouder of my son than when a friend of his said to him, "You hug your mom in public?" (It was after a game.) I was the one to hold back in public because I didn't want to embarrass my son who was a "big guy on campus." My boy's simple reply to his friend was, "Don't you?" It was never questioned again.

No child should ever feel it's wrong to show affection to his or her parents. For me, having a 15-year-old who wasn't embarrassed to be seen with his mother was huge. I agree with you, Abby. Some people read evil into everything and that's a shame.

KARIN IN CHELMSFORD, MASS.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Your response to "Alarmed" included a French saying that translates "Evil be he who thinks evil of it." That saying originated in England, where the highest, most ancient order of knighthood is the Order of the Garter. Around 1340, King Edward III was dancing at a formal ball with the Countess of Salisbury. During the dance, she dropped her garter. The king picked it up, put it on his own leg, looked at the others present and said, "Honi soit qui mal y pense" (Shame on him who thinks evil of it), then gallantly returned it to her.

Margaret Murray writes in her 1931 book "The God of the Witches" that it would have taken more than a dropped garter to embarrass a woman in the 14th century. The garter was probably a ritual one, signifying that the countess was a pagan leader -- a priestess of witchcraft. To drop the garter before the high dignitaries of the church could certainly have caused embarrassment. Edward's smart gesture in placing it on his own leg not only saved face for the countess but demonstrated his willingness to be a leader of the pagan population of England as well as the Christian. So I've heard

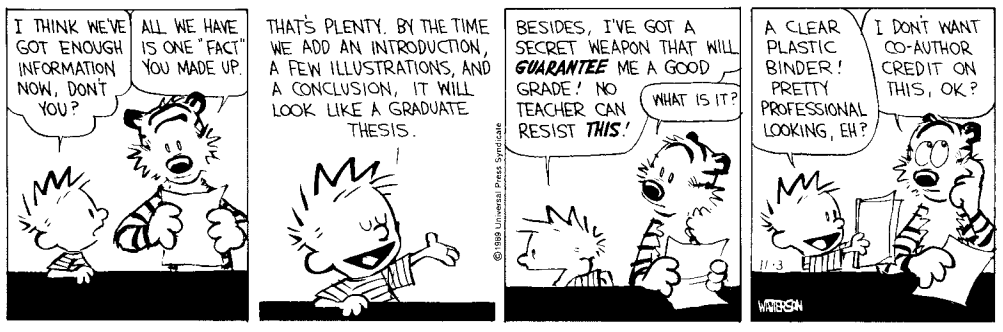
MARK D. DUNN, GARLAND, TEXAS

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


I THINK WE'VE GOT ENOUGH INFORMATION NOW, DON'T YOU?
ALL WE HAVE IS ONE "FACT" YOU MADE UP.
THAT'S PLENTY. BY THE TIME WE ADD AN INTRODUCTION, A FEW ILLUSTRATIONS, AND A CONCLUSION, IT WILL LOOK LIKE A GRADUATE THESIS.
BESIDES, I'VE GOT A SECRET WEAPON THAT WILL GUARANTEE ME A GOOD GRADE! NO TEACHER CAN RESIST THIS!
WHAT IS IT?
A CLEAR PLASTIC BINDER! PRETTY PROFESSIONAL LOOKING, EH?
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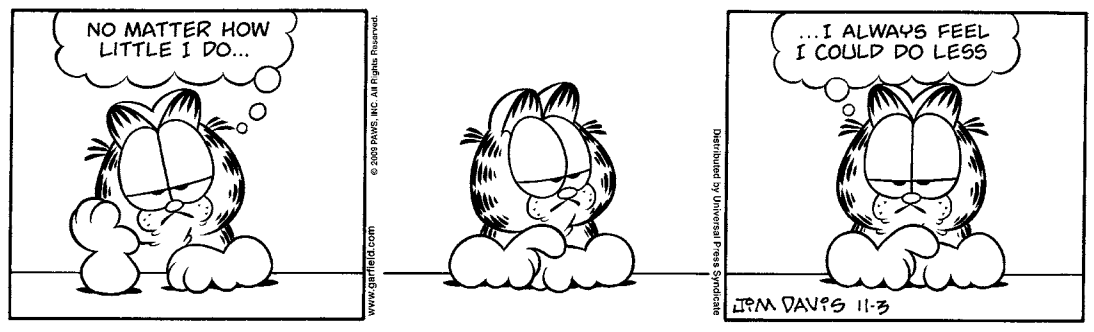
By Jim Davis


NO MATTER HOW LITTLE I DO...
...I ALWAYS FEEL I COULD DO LESS
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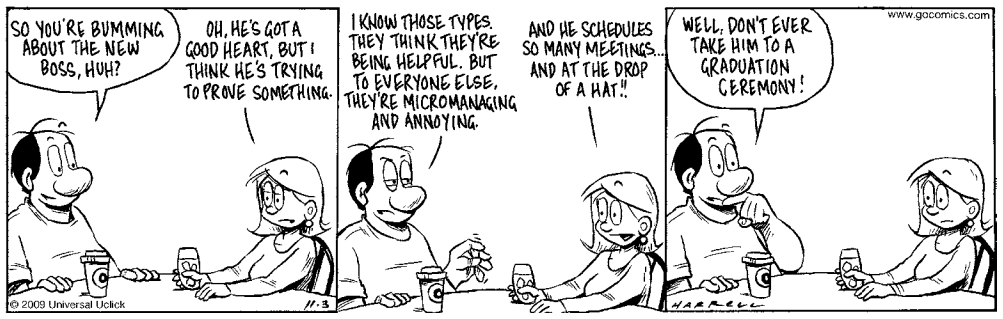
JIM DAVIS 11-3

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


SO YOU'RE BUMMING ABOUT THE NEW BOSS, HUH?
OH, HE'S GOT A GOOD HEART, BUT I THINK HE'S TRYING TO PROVE SOMETHING.
I KNOW THOSE TYPES. THEY THINK THEY'RE BEING HELPFUL. BUT TO EVERYONE ELSE, THEY'RE MICROMANAGING AND ANNOYING.
AND HE SCHEDULES SO MANY MEETINGS... AND AT THE DROP OF A HAT!!
WELL, DON'T EVER TAKE HIM TO A GRADUATION CEREMONY!
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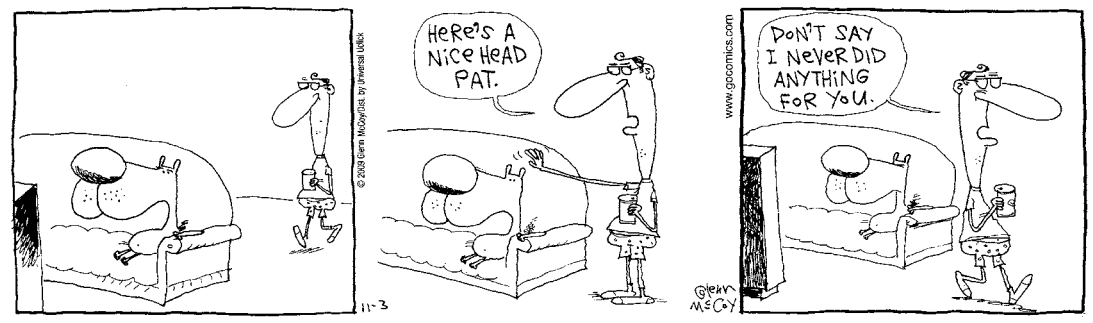
HARRELL

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy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CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Vicinity
5 Singer Tillis
8 Chromosome carrier
12 Griffin of TV lore
13 Eggs
14 Enthusiastic
15 Nobody you know
17 TV journalist Lisa
18 Additionally
19 Ship's kitchen
21 Dieter's entree
24 Shakespeare villain
25 Port structure
26 Hard up for cash
30 Literary collection
31 Sinful habits
32 Prior to
33 Good poker hand
35 Decline
36 Sore
37 Hell's Angel, e.g.
38 Ghost
41 Marshy terrain
42 Fuss
43 Pertaining to summer theater
48 Soon, in verse
49 Historic period
50 Top-notch
51 Solidifies
52 Storm center
53 Apportion

DOWN
1 Early hrs.
2 On pension (Abbr.)
3 Mess up
4 Icon in an Internet forum
5 Walt Kelly's possum
6 "Hail!"
7 Thorn in Dennis the Menace's side
8 Fast run
9 Maleficence
10 Baseball team
11 Nervous
16 Affirmative action?
20 Turkish officials
21 Masseuses' workplaces
22 "— She Sweet?"
23 Nonsense poet Edward
24 Pruritic
26 Go touring, maybe
27 Pinnacle
28 Sea eagle
29 Antelope's playmate
31 End of a Caesar quote
34 — rod (medicinal plant)
35 Native American hut
37 Squeezing snake
38 Male 29-Down
39 Corn recipe
40 "American —"
41 Highland hillside
44 Attempt
45 Weeding tool
46 Pismire
47 Ball-bearing item?

Solution time: 21 mins.

A	L	F	■	D	E	B	R	A	■	D	A	B
C	E	L	■	E	N	R	O	N	■	R	U	E
H	O	U	S	E	C	O	A	T	■	E	N	D
■	■	■	A	M	O	■	C	H	E	A	T	S
L	O	D	G	E	R	■	H	E	L	M	■	■
E	U	R	■	D	E	C	■	M	A	C	A	W
A	S	E	A	■	S	U	B	■	N	O	N	E
S	T	A	L	L	■	P	A	C	■	A	K	A
■	■	M	A	A	M	■	T	A	R	T	A	R
S	U	B	I	T	O	■	I	R	E	■	■	■
P	R	O	■	H	O	U	S	E	B	O	A	T
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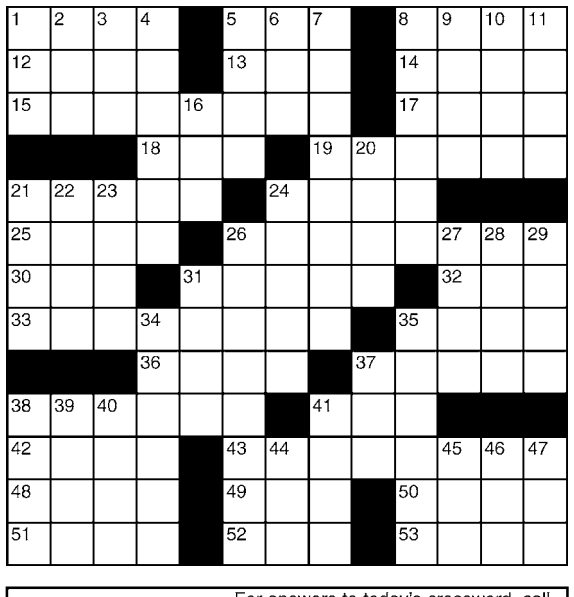
Yesterday's answer 11-3



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CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Dolph Lundgren, 52; Adam Ant, 55; Kate Capshaw, 56; Roseanne Barr, 57

Happy Birthday: Travel and dealing with institutions and authoritative people will not go according to plan. Show your capabilities by using what's available to you and you will make headway. You can set your own standard and stay within your means, proving that you are truly an entrepreneur. A matter that has been kept secret in the past will now be revealed. Your numbers are 3, 10, 21, 24, 33, 36, 44

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Don't give in to demands or to people trying to play on your sympathy. Protect your assets and offer suggestions, not cash, to those asking for your help. A past acquaintance will challenge you emotionally. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Don't make any hasty decisions regarding home and family. Stick to your original game plan and let everyone else take care of his or her own business. You will be lead astray if you believe everything you are told. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Keep things simple. As soon as you start to take on too much or involve yourself in other people's affairs, you will have added responsibilities or will be blamed for something you didn't intentionally do. Focus on your future, your interests and your career. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): A skill you have will be recognized and put to use in a unique way by someone you respect. Gains can be made and contracts negotiated in your favor. Don't let your personal responsibilities restrict you from getting ahead. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Acting on impulse will not help your situation at home, at work or financially. Someone who knows the ropes and could alter your course of action will question you. Budget and avoid unwarranted stress. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Being upfront will get you what you want in the end. You don't have to make friends—just prove your point and you will advance. Someone will be jealous of you. Detail, precision and dedication will lead to your victory. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Stop being so hard on yourself and the ones you love. Everything will work out if you focus on what you can do instead of what you cannot. Some worthwhile changes made at home could save you money. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Study the facts and hold off making a move that can upset your emotional well-being and home life. Interact with creative people with similar interests for insight in resolving a problem you face with a friend, relative or partner. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't let anyone make you look bad. Stick up for what you have done in the past and what you plan to do in the future. A relationship with someone you meet while volunteering your services will turn out to be beneficial. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Making some changes at home will allow you to take care of both personal and professional needs with greater ease. Stick to your budget. You can get what you want for a lot less if you do your research. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Your emotions will lead you in the wrong direction. If someone is trying to upset you, question whether or not this person should be in your life or not. Don't settle for someone or something for the wrong reason. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Before you fall for a situation that isn't likely to pan out, do your homework. A false sense of what you have will lead to an expensive lesson. Listen to common sense being offered by someone who has business savvy. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are strong-willed, possessive and like to be in control. You are creative, competitive and passionate.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	8		6	9				
		6	1	3	7			9
							7	
	1			6			3	5
6	9						2	4
7	4			5			9	
	3							
1			3	8	2	5		
				1	9		6	

Difficulty Level ★★ 11/03

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

2	5	4	6	7	9	1	8	3
1	7	9	2	8	3	6	4	5
6	8	3	4	5	1	9	7	2
8	2	6	1	4	7	3	5	9
3	4	1	8	9	5	7	2	6
5	9	7	3	2	6	8	1	4
4	3	5	7	6	8	2	9	1
9	6	8	5	1	2	4	3	7
7	1	2	9	3	4	5	6	8

Difficulty Level ★ 11/02

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

ED MCMAHON (1923-2009) **Solution: 11 letters**

M	L	P	S	M	H	C	L	L	I	R	R	E	F	W
E	A	E	E	U	A	E	P	K	S	E	A	R	C	H
E	U	S	R	R	N	R	A	I	D	U	A	L	C	P
C	G	N	S	O	S	T	I	M	L	E	X	R	B	S
Y	H	O	L	A	H	O	I	N	N	O	E	L	R	T
L	N	O	K	E	C	C	N	S	E	I	T	E	O	A
A	C	D	R	R	H	H	N	A	D	S	H	G	A	R
T	N	I	E	A	A	Y	U	A	L	S	A	A	D	S
Y	N	N	E	T	L	L	G	S	I	I	P	T	C	R
E	E	L	O	I	R	I	C	L	E	A	T	S	A	E
S	G	R	M	U	R	O	B	P	M	T	D	Y	S	P
H	K	A	F	B	N	U	I	E	Ⓡ	K	T	N	T	O
O	F	O	M	F	P	C	L	T	S	Ⓞ	H	S	I	O
W	E	S	O	E	E	A	E	E	F	I	Ⓛ	M	N	L
O	G	N	I	B	S	J	D	R	A	W	D	Ⓔ	G	B

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Yesterday's Answer: Fragrances

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Rodriguez, Yankees beat Phils for 3-1 Series edge

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Alex Rodriguez waited all game long for this hit. Heck, he waited his whole life. Rodriguez delivered the biggest hit of his career, a go-ahead, two-out double in the ninth inning off Brad Lidge and the New York Yankees took advantage of Johnny Damon's daring dash to beat the Philadelphia Phillies 7-4 on Sunday night for a 3-1 lead in the World Series.

Derek Jeter came through again and Mariano Rivera finished it off as the Yankees moved within one win of that elusive 27th championship and first since 2000.

Rodriguez could really savor this victory—seething after again being hit by a pitch, he struck back with his potent black bat.

"There's no question—I've never had a bigger hit," Rodriguez said.

The Yankees will try to close out the defending champions Monday night when A.J. Burnett faces October ace Cliff Lee.

Of the 42 teams to take a 3-1 lead in the World Series, 36 went on to win the crown. The last club to overcome such a deficit was Kansas City in 1985.

Chase Utley and Pedro Feliz hit late home runs for the Phillies that tied it at 4. Then it moved to the ninth and Phils brought in Lidge—a postseason star last year, he had struggled all season before regaining his touch this October.

But November was not so kind to him.

Lidge had been the only closer in the playoffs who hadn't allowed a run until the Yankees tagged him. With two outs, Damon capped a nine-pitch at-bat with a single. The Phillies overshifted their infield to the right side for Mark Teixeira and Damon took off.

Damon beat the one-hop throw to steal second, popped up from his slide and noticed no one was covering third. That's because Feliz had handled the throw, and Damon easily beat the third baseman to the bag for a rare double-steal—fact is, who'd ever seen it?

Rattled or whatever, Lidge hit Teixeira with a pitch. So up stepped Rodriguez, 1 for 13 to that point in his first World Series and looking nothing like the feared slugger he was earlier in these playoffs.

Putting all his prominent failures behind, Rodriguez lined a solid double into the left-field corner for a 5-4 lead. The three-time AL MVP connected so solidly, the sound echoed throughout Citizens Bank Park. Maybe it wasn't such a surprise—Rodriguez had homered and doubled in three prior at-bats against Lidge.

"I get a good pitch and put a good swing on it, good things usually happen," Rodriguez said. "Facing Brad Lidge, he's a great competitor. He's had a lot of success late here. Just trying to make contact there."

Rodriguez stood at second with his 15th RBI, tying the Yankees postseason record shared by Bernie Williams and Scott Brosius. A-Rod's other hit this week came in Game 3 when his double was changed to a home run after an instant replay review.

The crowd was silent when Jorge Posada followed with a two-run single. Then it was Rivera's turn and he quickly got three outs for his 11th World Series save. Chamberlain was the winner in his second Series appearance.

Just like that, the Yankees were 27 outs from their record 27th title and the Phillies were on the brink of getting eliminated. Philadelphia faces a daunting task; New York lost three in a row only twice after the All-Star break.

"I think we take a lot of pride on being resilient and the way we bounce back," Phils manager Charlie Manuel said. "I've seen us go through it before. We've blown 22 games from the seventh inning on or something this year. That's got to tell you something about the resilience of our team."

The Yankees' late burst hushed fans who had been festive from the start. Many of them had walked across the street after watching the Philadelphia Eagles rout the New York Giants 40-17.

Feliz rocked Yankees setup man Joba Chamberlain with a two-out, solo home run in the eighth that tied it at 4.

Utley homered again off CC Sabathia, finishing the New York starter in the seventh. It was Utley's third shot off Sabathia in this Series and closed the Phillies to 4-3.

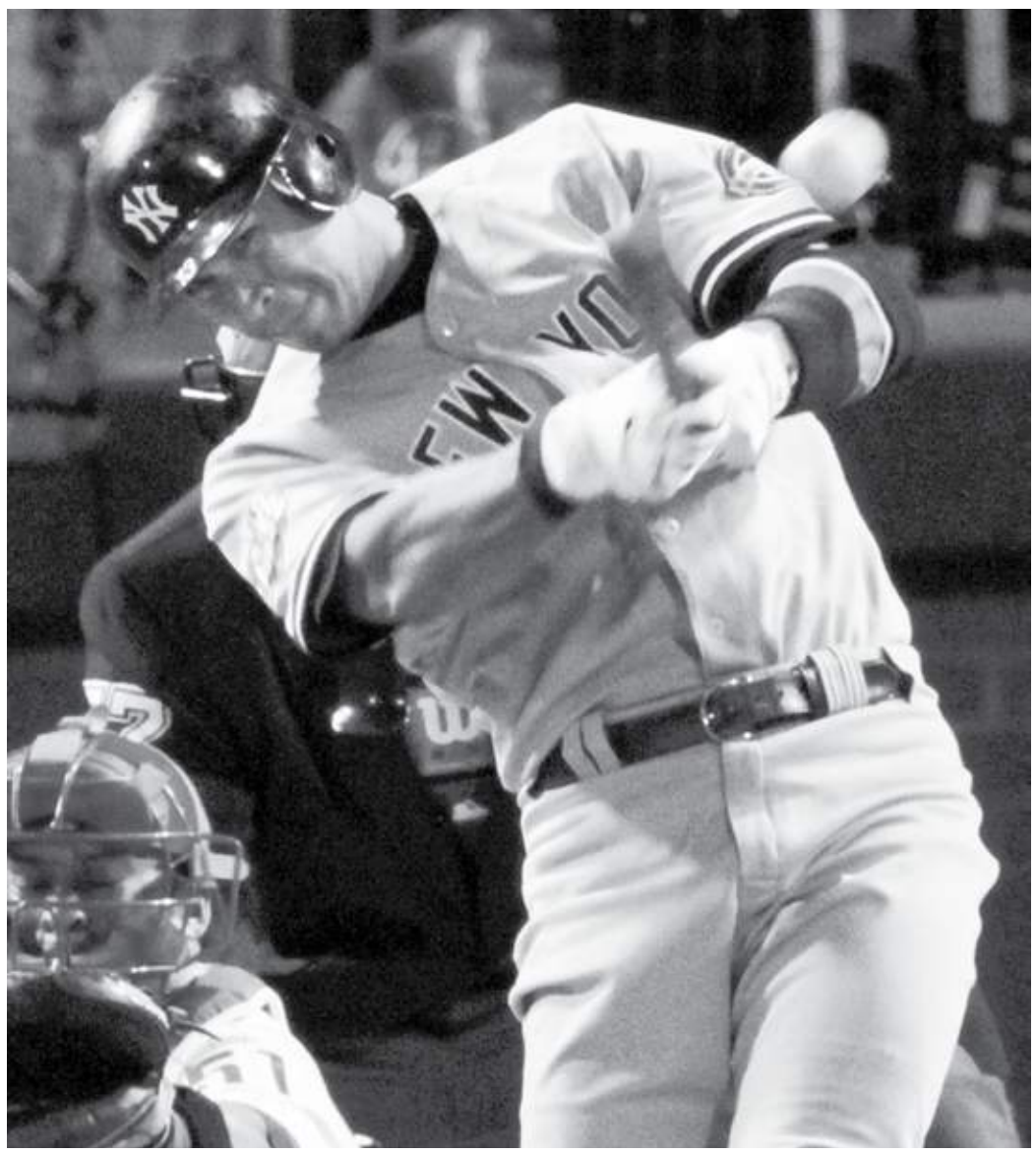
Down all evening, the Phillies kept scrapping. They eventually drew even on the home runs, a common sight at a park where the ball really flies.

Jeter put the Yankees ahead from the get-go, leading off the game with a single and scoring in a two-run first. The inning also included plate umpire Mike Everitt warning both teams after Rodriguez was hit by a pitch for the third time in two days.

Howard barreled home to tie at 2 in the fourth. The big Phillies slugger braced for a collision with Posada and got a piece of the New York catcher—replays, however, appeared to show Howard never touched the plate, yet another missed call in a shaky postseason for umpires.

Jeter and Damon hit RBI singles in the fifth off Joe Blanton and the crowd grew quiet as Sabathia, working hard on three days' rest, kept working out of trouble in the middle innings.

Then Utley rang the big Liberty Bell in center field with his home run. And after Chamberlain struck out his first two batters in the eighth, Feliz gonged him with a no-doubt drive over the left-field wall.



AP

New York Yankees' Alex Rodriguez hits a double off Philadelphia Phillies relief pitcher Brad Lidge to drive in a run in the ninth inning of Game 4 of the Major League Baseball World Series against the Philadelphia Phillies Sunday, Nov. 1, 2009, in Philadelphia.

Lidge's perfect postseason ends at wrong time

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—One strike away from preserving his perfect postseason, Brad Lidge fell apart.

In his first World Series appearance since striking out Eric Hinske to clinch the title last year, Lidge gave up three runs in the ninth inning and the Philadelphia Phillies lost 7-4 to the New York Yankees in Game 4 on Sunday night.

The Yankees have a 3-1 lead and can clinch their 27th title in Philadelphia on Monday night.

"You always want to go out there and have good results," Lidge said. "Any time you don't do well, it's frustrating. Obviously, the guys did a great job coming back tonight. I really wish we could have come out with the win here. We've got to get back to New York and keep going. Hopefully I get another chance to get out there and get a win or a save for our team."

Lidge had turned around a nightmare season by going 1-0 with three saves in three chances this postseason. He didn't appear in the first three games against the Yankees and hadn't pitched in 11 days before entering a tie game in the ninth.

After retiring the first two batters, the hard-throwing right-hander struggled. He nearly struck out Johnny Damon on a 2-2 pitch that barely missed. Damon then lined a 3-2 pitch to left for a single. Damon stole second on the first pitch to Mark Teixeira, got up after sliding and took third with no one covering because of an exaggerated shift.

"If I could've put away Damon, it obviously would've been a pretty quick, clean inning," Lidge said. "One pitch away from getting out of there."

Lidge then hit Teixeira with a pitch, bringing up Alex Rodriguez. A-Rod lined an RBI double to put the Yankees ahead and Jorge Posada followed with a two-run single to make it 7-4.

"I threw a fastball in," Lidge said of the pitch to Rodriguez. "I think it was actually a decent pitch, but we've gone in there a lot and you've got to give them some credit, too. I guess it could have been off the plate in, but they've been doing a good job hitting. He's a pretty good hitter."

Lidge hadn't allowed a run in five appearances this postseason. Damon's sprint for third seemed to rattle him.

"Did he lose his focus? I think the first two hitters, he did real well," manager Charlie Manuel said. "He was up 1-2 in the count on Damon. Damon had a real good at-bat and ran the count out to 3-2. But once he stole, did he lose focus? I don't know. I mean, he was having trouble. But at the same time, the way he started the inning, he was fine."

Now the defending champs are on the verge of elimination. They'll turn to ace Cliff Lee, who shut down the Yankees in Game 1.

While CC Sabathia pitched effectively on three days' rest for the Yankees, Joe Blanton got the nod over Lee for Game 4 because the 2008 AL Cy Young Award winner has never pitched on three days' rest in his career.

Yankees 27 outs from 27th title

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—It was all starting to slip away from the Yankees.

CC Sabathia and Joba Chamberlain let the Phillies tie the game and Brad Lidge was on the mound in the top of the ninth, looking like the closer who brought his team a World Series title a year ago.

He dominated pinch-hitter Hideki Matsui and struck out Derek Jeter.

Then up walked Johnny Damon. Ball one, three fouls, two more balls and a full count. Another foul, then another. Lidge was consistently clocked in the low 90s on the radar gun and Damon was struggling to keep up.

"I kept sitting slider, and he kept throwing the fastball. They really don't teach you to do it that way," Damon said after the Yankees' 7-4 victory over the Phillies put them within a game of title No. 27. "But I felt like his slider made me look silly on a couple pitches, so I kept sitting slider and just reacted to the fastball."

Some reaction.

Damon sliced the ninth pitch of the sequence into left field but the really hard work was just beginning.

On the first pitch to the next hitter, Mark Teixeira, Damon took off for second. On the throw down, Phillies third baseman Pedro Feliz made a nice stop on a low throw from the catcher. Damon popped up, realized that the Phillies infield had shifted to cover the left side against Teixeira and saw third base uncovered. He took off.

"I kind of had to see all that stuff develop," Damon said. "I'm just glad that when I started running, I still had some of my young legs behind me."

He could have walked home after Alex Rodriguez delivered the biggest hit of his life, a hard-hit double into the left-field corner. Teixeira's at-bat was cut short when he was hit with a pitch by Lidge. The next batter, Jorge Posada, followed with a two-run single to put the game out of reach.

Mariano Rivera closed it out with a 1-2-3 ninth.

"Somebody has got to be covering third base," Phillies manager Charlie Manuel said afterward. "Usually it's the catcher tries to get down there."

But it's clear the Phillies weren't prepared. They never talked about how they would deal with Damon.

"We never got anybody to say, `OK, you've got to go in there; you've got to go here,'" Feliz said.

But once Damon realized the Phillies weren't where they were supposed to be, he displayed the guile gained during 15 major league seasons.

He ran faster than his 35-year-old legs seemed capable of.

"That's instinct. You better be sure because you've got Tex and A-Rod up behind, and you'd better be sure," Yankee manager Joe Girardi said. "It was a great instinctual play by Johnny."

The Yankees had been trying to get back to this point ever since a broken bat single by Arizona's Luis Gonzalez ended their run of three straight World Series titles in 2001.

Favre shakes off boos, Vikings beat Packers, 38-26

GREEN BAY, Wisconsin (AP)— Brett Favre sliced up his former team Sunday, leading the Minnesota Vikings to a 38-26 win over Green Bay Packers, the team that cast him aside.

If walking out to waves of loud jeers from his former fans threw Favre off his game, it didn't last long. Despite being jeered repeatedly by Packers fans who once cheered his every move, Favre completed 17 of 28 passes for 244 yards and four touchdowns.

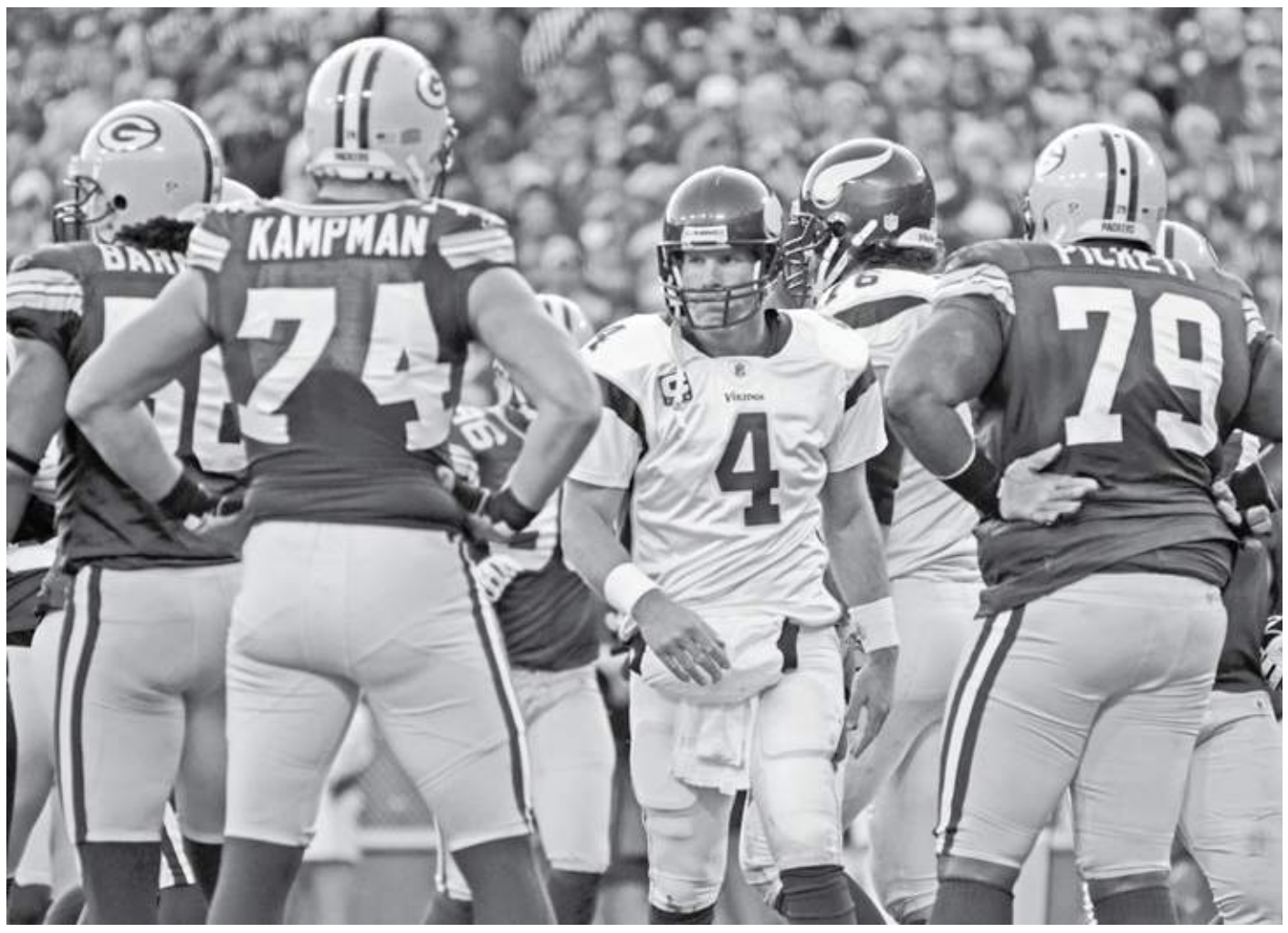
The Vikings, with seven wins and a loss, took a firm hold on the NFC North standings.

Rookie receiver Percy Harvin caught five passes for 84 yards and a touchdown and had five returns for 175 yards.

The Vikings' defense roughed up Favre's successor, Aaron Rodgers, sacking him six times. But with the Packers (4-3) on the verge of getting routed, Rodgers rebounded with three second-half touchdowns.

Favre left the field surrounded by cameras, pumping his fist to a mix of cheers and boos as he jogged down the tunnel.

Despite the final score, it was an awkward homecoming for Favre, whose high-profile standoff with the front office split the loyalties of Packers fans last summer.



AP

Minnesota Vikings quarterback Brett Favre (4) walks between players from the Green Bay Packers after the Vikings scored their first touchdown in the first quarter of an NFL football game Sunday, Nov. 1, 2009, in Green Bay, Wis.

Rams 17, Lions 10

At Detroit, Steven Jackson's 25-yard touchdown run with 1:38 left ended St. Louis' 17-game losing streak, helping the Rams avoid match their worst start in the club's history.

They also ended talk about joining Detroit, which has one win this season, as the only teams in NFL history to have an 0-16 season.

St. Louis hadn't won since beating Dallas on Oct. 19, 2008.

Colts 18, 49ers 14

At Indianapolis, the Colts won their 16th straight regular-season game and Jim Caldwell became the first rookie coach since the NFL merger to open his career with seven consecutive wins.

Peyton Manning topped 300 yards and got credit for another Colts rally, but it was Joseph Addai who won it. The fourth-year running back threw a 22-yard touchdown pass to Reggie Wayne early in the final quarter to give the Colts their only lead.

The Colts are the last unbeaten team in the AFC for the fourth time in five years.

Ravens 30, Broncos 7

At Baltimore, the Ravens handed Denver its first loss of the season.

Rookie Lardarius Webb returned the second-half kickoff 95 yards for a touchdown, and the Ravens ended a three-game losing streak with a surprisingly easy victory.

It was Denver's first loss under rookie head coach Josh McDaniels.

Titans 30, Jaguars 13

At Nashville, Vince Young threw for a touchdown in his first start since the 2008 season opener and Chris Johnson set a franchise record by rushing for 228 yards as the Titans won their first game of the season. Tampa Bay, which had a bye this week, remains the only winless team.

Chargers 24, Raiders 16

At San Diego, LaDainian Tomlinson scored twice as the Chargers took their 13th straight victory against the Raiders. It's the longest active NFL winning streak by one team over another.

Eagles 40, Giants 17

At Philadelphia, Donovan McNabb threw three touchdown passes and DeSean Jackson had another big TD catch for the Eagles. The game was just the appetizer in a marathon day in the NY-Philadelphia rivalry. The Yankees and Phillies were set for the first pitch of Game 4 of the World Series across the street only hours after the Eagles' rout ended.

Panthers 34, Cardinals 21

At Glendale, Arizona, Jake Delhomme threw a 50-yard touchdown pass before leaving with a chest injury and Jonathan Stewart ran for two scores.

The Panthers, in a turnover-free performance, rolled up 270 yards on the ground against what had been the No. 1 rushing defense in the NFL.

Cowboys 38, Seahawks 17

At Arlington, Texas, Miles Austin caught a touchdown pass for the third straight game and Patrick Crayton returned a punt for a score for the second consecutive week, sending Dallas into a share of first place in the NFC East.

Tony Romo went a third game in a row without an interception. Since a herky-jerky first month, the Cowboys (5-2) have found quite a groove, winning three straight.

Dolphins 30, Jets 25

At East Rutherford, Ted Ginn Jr. had two long kickoff returns for touchdowns in the third quarter.

Texans 31, Bills 10

At Orchard Park, New York, Ryan Moats scored three touchdowns on consecutive fourth-quarter drives to help the Texans win their third straight game.

Bears 30, Browns 6

At Chicago, Jay Cutler threw for 225 yards and Matt Forte ran for two touchdowns as the Bears beat the bumbling Browns.

The Bears paid tribute to Walter Payton at halftime on the 10th anniversary of his death, then delivered a performance that was far from sweet. But it was effective enough.

Celtics beat Hornets 97-87 to improve to 4-0

BOSTON (AP)— Paul Pierce scored 27 points as the Boston Celtics continued their unbeaten start to the NBA season with a 97-87 victory over the New Orleans Hornets on Sunday night.

Chris Paul had 22 points and eight assists for New Orleans, and then had to be held back after the game when he tried to follow the Celtics off the court to their locker room. Paul and Celtics point guard Rajon Rondo also exchanged words in the second quarter, drawing matching technical fouls.

Ray Allen scored 17, Kevin Garnett had 14 and Rondo had 10 assists for Boston, which pulled away with an 11-3 run in the last 4 minutes.

Peja Stojakovic scored 26 as a reserve for New Orleans. Emeka Okafor had 10 rebounds for New Orleans.

Lakers 118, Hawks 110

At Los Angeles, Kobe Bryant had 41 points and eight rebounds and Andrew Bynum added 21 points as the Lakers pulled away with 18 consecutive points in the third quarter for a 118-110 victory over Atlanta.

Lamar Odom had 11 points, 14 rebounds and eight assists for the defending NBA champions, who bounced back from a loss to Dallas with an overwhelming second half in Atlanta's first defeat.

Joe Johnson scored 18 of his 27 points in the first quarter for the Hawks, who opened a four-game road trip with an embarrassing third quarter before a late run made the score respectable.

Bryant capped the 97th 40-point game of his career with eight points in the final minutes to hold off the Hawks' last rally.

Nuggets 133, Grizzlies 123

At Denver, Carmelo Anthony scored 42 points in the Nuggets' shootout win over the Grizzlies.

O.J. Mayo scored a career-high 40 points for Memphis.

Chauncey Billups chipped in 22 points and 12 assists, and Kenyon Martin had 16 and Nene 18. All five of the Grizzlies' starters scored in double figures. Marc Gasol had 20 points.

Heat 95, Bulls 87

At Miami, Dwyane Wade scored 25 points to push his career total to 10,005, while Udonis Haslem had 19 points and 11 rebounds off the bench as Miami improved to 3-0.

Carlos Arroyo scored 12 points, Mario Chalmers added 11 and Michael Beasley overcame a 3-of-12 shooting night to finish with 10 points and 11 rebounds for the Heat, who took the lead for good on a jumper by Wade with 3:01 remaining.

Luol Deng scored 26 points for Chicago, which got 17 points from John Salmons, 11 from Brad Miller and 10 from Joakim Noah.

Suns 120, Timberwolves 112

At Phoenix, Channing Frye hit six 3-pointers and scored 25 points, and Jason Richardson had 23 points in his first game following a two-game suspension for the undefeated Suns.

Grant Hill had 23 points and 10 rebounds for Phoenix. Amare Stoudemire added 19 points and eight rebounds, and Steve Nash had 14 points and 14 assists.

Ryan Gomes led Minnesota with 23 points. Al Jefferson scored 21 but hit only 9-of-23 shots.

Magic 125, Raptors 116

At Toronto, Jameer Nelson scored 30 points, J.J. Redick had a career-high 27 and Orlando used a season-high 17 3-pointers to beat Toronto.

Dwight Howard had 24 points and 11 rebounds, Ryan Anderson scored 20 and the Magic remained unbeaten from three NBA matches following an 8-0 run in the preseason.

Chris Bosh led Toronto with 35 points and 16 rebounds while Andrea Bargnani had 26, including 22 in the second half. Former Magic swingman Hedo Turkoglu had 19 points for Toronto, which has lost two straight following a season-opening victory over Cleveland.

Trail Blazers 83, Thunder 74

At Oklahoma City, Steve Blake scored 18 points and Brandon Roy finished with 16 as Portland earned a split of a two-game trip.

Roy made just four of his first 16 shots before finally finding a way to hurt Oklahoma City at the free throw line. While Kevin Durant continued to misfire on jump shots for the Thunder, Roy worked his way into the lane repeatedly to earn trips to the foul line and help Portland inch away.

His three-point play off a driving layup gave the Trail Blazers a 70-62 lead with 3:59 to play.

Russell Westbrook led Oklahoma City with 23 points but also matched his career-high with nine turnovers. Jeff Green added 19 points and 11 rebounds, and Durant scored 16 points on 3-for-21 shooting as the Thunder shot just 34 percent.

Manny Pacquiao favorite sports icon of Filipino kids

MANILA, Philippines—Not only boxing enthusiasts love pound-for-pound king Manny Pacquiao but Filipino children also recognize him as their favorite sports icon, according to a recent study of Cartoon Network dubbed as "New Generations Philippines 2009."

The study conducted in three major cities in the Philippines—Manila, Cebu, and Davao—showed that kids aged 7-14 years chose Pacquiao as their idol in sports with 14 percent of the votes. Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant was the second choice with 11 percent while NBA superstar Michael Jordan and Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James shared third place with five percent each.

But in terms of gender, 19 percent of the boys ranked Bryant first on their list while Pacquiao came in second and James in third place, with 14 percent and 10 percent, respectively.

Pacquiao won the girls' hearts, voting him as number one with 14 percent followed by Purefoods' James Yap, Bryant, and Smart Gilas' Chris Tiu, each with three percent vote.

In a survey question, where kids were asked to choose between two things, they preferred the National Basketball Association over the Philippine Basketball Association. Seventy-two percent of the respondents chose the NBA while only twenty-eight percent selected the PBA.

Aside from the kids' interest in sports, the study also found that kids prefer eating over sleeping, talking over texting, studying Math over English, watching television over surfing the internet and real life friends over virtual friends.

Sixty-five percent of the respondents also expressed that having a high-paying job would be their number one goal in life, followed by being happy and being rich, forty-seven percent and forty-four percent, respectively. ***(PDI)***

GOV/BIZ

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IT&E is currently at the top of the team standings with its 10-1 record, followed by Hyatt Regency Saipan (9-1), NTT Docomo (7-3), Public School System (7-4), Tinian (5-4), CPA-Accounting (6-5), Micronesian Brokers, Inc (5-4), Commonwealth Health Center (3-6), Bank of Guam (4-7), Department of Community and Cultural Affairs (4-7), Customs (2-8), and Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighters (0-10).

CHC will play its penultimate game in the regular season on Nov. 9 and will face NTT Docomo in the first match. In the second game, Customs will close out its regular season campaign with a duel against MBI.

On Nov. 13, Tinian will challenge CHC in the first game, while the second match will feature a very important tiff between Hyatt and Docomo.

A Hyatt win will secure the Ray Lizama-coached squad the pennant, while a loss will give the coveted title to IT&E. If Hyatt prevails and improves to a 10-1 slate, it will tie IT&E for the No. 1 spot, but the former wins the tiebreak due to the winner-over-the-other rule. Hyatt downed IT&E in their lone meeting this regular season, 112-100.

The final game of the regular season will have Tinian squaring off with MBI on Nov. 14.

A coaches/managers meeting will be held after the completion of the five remaining games to discuss the format in the playoffs and vote for the most valuable player in the regular season. Date and time of the meeting will be announced later, but it will be held at the conference room of the Ada gym.

Meanwhile, due to its long break, the 2009 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League will hold multiple games every playing day this month.

On Nov. 4, the 18-and-under caging will have four games with the first one starting at 9am and the last one beginning at 1pm. On Nov. 5, two more games will be played with the first match set for 5:30pm and the second at 7pm. There will be only one match on Nov. 6 at 5:30pm.

Next week, only one game is scheduled for Nov. 9, but the Nov. 10 and 11 playing days will feature three games apiece. The week will close out with two matches on Nov. 12.

The regular season should be completed by Dec. 12 and playoffs will start on Dec. 14 with only the Top 8 teams making in to the next round.

Budweiser caging meeting tonight

Still in basketball, organizers of the 2009 Budweiser Basketball League are calling on representatives of interested teams to attend a meeting tonight at the conference room of the Ada Gym.

The meeting is set for 6:30pm with organizers expected to discuss the league's schedule, tournament ground rules, and other important matters related to the annual caging.

For more information, contact Gabriel White at 234-6547 or Abner Venus at 234-5911.

NOV. 15

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time, the kick-off date is final, we will open shop on Nov. 15," Muleta said.

He added they decided to postpone the opening date for one more week, as teams are still waiting for their uniforms.

So far, the PILCOWA caging has drawn 12 teams, six squads each in the open and masters divisions.

Muleta is asking coaches/representatives of each team to submit a copy of their rosters before the league starts next week. He added coaches in the masters division must submit a proof of players' age eligibility. Only players in the 37-and-above age group will be allowed to play in the masters division.

The league coordinator is also reminding coaches/representatives of participating teams to attend a meeting tonight at 6pm at the pavilion across the JP Centre Building.

Final details about the opening and other important matters will be discussed at the meeting.

This year's PILCOWA caging will be played four times a week with two games set for each playing day. Matches will be scheduled every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Trophies will be awarded to the Top 3 finishers in each division, while individual plums will also be given to MVPs (regular season and finals), and Mythical Five members.

Meanwhile, Muleta said the league is still looking for sponsors. Pacific Trading, Co. sponsored the inaugural edition of the PILCOWA caging last year.

The 2008 edition of the caging drew seven teams in eventual champion Diamond Auto Care, runner-up MIGS, third placer C&R Distributor, pennant champion Century Insurance, Aon Insurance, Olivos, and Pacific Trading Co.

Diamond took the championship last year after outclassing MIGS in a double overtime title clash, 101-99, with Sonny Ranola drilling the game-winning basket.

For more information on the PILCOWA caging, contact Muleta at 285-9783.

CLUB

From Page 28

Nov. 11. Entry fee is $95 for Club Elan or Club at the Hyatt member and $110 for non-member.

The tournament will have a four-person scramble format and will implement a double-peoria handicap system.

Cash prizes and other gifts will be given to the Top 3 finishers, while Hyatt has also lined up hole-in-one prizes.

The Jess Wabol-led squad won last year's tournament despite a depleted crew. Wabol had only two teammates joining him in last year's competition. They were Bae Young Man and junior golfer Louis. Tars Olopai missed the morning tee-off, leaving Team 2A with only three players.

Despite its handicap, Team 2A managed to record the lowest net score of 62 to beat Team 13B and Team 5A.

Paz Younis, Edgar Abalos, James Lee, and John Sablan played for Team 13B and wound up with a net 63.6 to finish runner-up to Wabol and company. Team 5A, which had George Moses and Newman Techur as members tallied a net 64.8 to place third.

This year's Club at the Hyatt Golf Classic will have a shotgun start at 7:30am. Registration will run from 6:30am to 7:25am.

A dinner banquet at the poolside of Hyatt Regency Saipan awaits participants. Besides the cash perks for winners, raffle prizes will also be given away at the awards banquet.

For more information, contact Yulia Camacho or Robin Eugenio at 323-5870 or via e-mail at cath@hyattsaipan.com or robin.eugenio@hyattsaipan.com. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	4	0	1.000	—
Philadelphia	2	1	.667	1 1/2
Toronto	1	2	.333	2 1/2
New Jersey	0	3	.000	3 1/2
New York	0	3	.000	3 1/2

Southeast Division

Miami	3	0	1.000	—
Orlando	3	0	1.000	—
Atlanta	2	1	.667	1
Washington	2	1	.667	1
Charlotte	1	2	.333	2

Central Division

Cleveland	2	2	.500	—
Milwaukee	1	1	.500	—
Chicago	1	2	.333	1/2
Detroit	1	2	.333	1/2
Indiana	0	2	.000	1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

Dallas	2	1	.667	—
Houston	2	1	.667	—
San Antonio	2	1	.667	—
Memphis	1	2	.333	1
New Orleans	1	2	.333	1

Northwest Division

Denver	3	0	1.000	—
Oklahoma City	2	1	.667	1
Portland	2	2	.500	1 1/2
Utah	1	1	.500	1 1/2
Minnesota	1	2	.333	2

Pacific Division

Phoenix	3	0	1.000	—
L.A. Lakers	2	1	.667	1
Golden State	0	2	.000	2 1/2
Sacramento	0	3	.000	3
L.A. Clippers	0	4	.000	3 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Orlando 125, Toronto 116
Miami 95, Chicago 87
Boston 97, New Orleans 87
Portland 83, Oklahoma City 74
Denver 133, Memphis 123
Phoenix 120, Minnesota 112
L.A. Lakers 118, Atlanta 110

NBA LEADERS

Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Anthony, DEN	3	37	36	113	37.7
Bryant, LAL	3	32	28	94	31.3
Bosh, TOR	3	29	32	93	31.0
Arenas, WAS	3	28	21	84	28.0
Wade, MIA	3	27	27	83	27.7
Roy, POR	4	28	44	108	27.0
Granger, IND	2	16	13	53	26.5
Paul, NOR	3	28	18	79	26.3
Nowitzki, DAL	3	24	28	79	26.3
Martin, SAC	3	22	24	76	25.3
James, CLE	4	34	24	99	24.8
Harrington, NYK	3	28	15	74	24.7
Williams, UTA	2	17	11	49	24.5
Gordon, DET	3	23	20	73	24.3
Ariza, HOU	3	23	13	70	23.3
Billups, DEN	3	18	25	69	23.0
Johnson, ATL	3	23	18	69	23.0
Gallinari, NYK	3	22	6	68	22.7
Ellis, GOL	2	17	10	45	22.5
Mayo, MEM	3	26	9	67	22.3

FG Percentage

	FG	FGA	PCT
Biedrins, GOL	8	9	.889
Fesenko, UTA	8	9	.889
Speights, PHL	18	24	.750
Gasol, MEM	19	26	.731
Watson, IND	8	11	.727
Blatche, WAS	28	39	.718
Blair, SAN	12	17	.706
Paul, NOR	28	43	.651
Dampier, DAL	11	17	.647
O'Neal, MIA	20	31	.645

Rebounds

	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Howard, ORL	3	16	32	48	16.0
Bosh, TOR	3	12	32	44	14.7
Duncan, SAN	3	7	31	38	12.7
Horford, ATL	3	11	26	37	12.3
Wallace, CHA	3	7	29	36	12.0
Murphy, IND	2	5	18	23	11.5
Boozer, UTA	2	3	20	23	11.5
Okafor, NOR	3	8	25	33	11.0
Odom, LAL	3	10	23	33	11.0
Gasol, MEM	3	8	25	33	11.0

Assists

	G	AST	AVG
Nash, PHX	3	42	14.0
Rondo, BOS	4	47	11.8
Williams, UTA	2	22	11.0
Kidd, DAL	3	27	9.0
James, CLE	4	35	8.8
Westbrook, OKC	3	25	8.3
Brooks, HOU	3	25	8.3
Harris, NJN	2	15	7.5
B. Davis, LAC	4	30	7.5
Paul, NOR	3	21	7.0

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	5	2	0	.714	198	98
N.Y. Jets	4	4	0	.500	177	134
Miami	3	4	0	.429	176	177
Buffalo	3	5	0	.375	123	169

South

Indianapolis	7	0	0	1.000	197	91
Houston	5	3	0	.625	198	168
Jacksonville	3	4	0	.429	133	177
Tennessee	1	6	0	.143	114	211

North

Cincinnati	5	2	0	.714	163	128
Pittsburgh	5	2	0	.714	167	129
Baltimore	4	3	0	.571	199	137
Cleveland	1	7	0	.125	78	209

West

Denver	6	1	0	.857	140	96
San Diego	4	3	0	.571	185	159
Oakland	2	6	0	.250	78	201
Kansas City	1	6	0	.143	105	181

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

Philadelphia	5	2	0	.714	203	133
Dallas	5	2	0	.714	197	136
N.Y. Giants	5	3	0	.625	212	183
Washington	2	5	0	.286	96	123

South

New Orleans	6	0	0	1.000	238	127
Atlanta	4	2	0	.667	144	114
Carolina	3	4	0	.429	128	166
Tampa Bay	0	7	0	.000	96	203

North

Minnesota	7	1	0	.875	244	174
Green Bay	4	3	0	.571	187	134
Chicago	4	3	0	.571	159	150
Detroit	1	6	0	.143	113	205

West

Arizona	4	3	0	.571	157	143
San Francisco	3	4	0	.429	147	140
Seattle	2	5	0	.286	135	147
St. Louis	1	7	0	.125	77	221

Yesterday's Games

St. Louis 17, Detroit 10
Miami 30, N.Y. Jets 25
Dallas 38, Seattle 17
Chicago 30, Cleveland 6
Baltimore 30, Denver 7
Houston 31, Buffalo 10
Indianapolis 18, San Francisco 14
Philadelphia 40, N.Y. Giants 17
San Diego 24, Oakland 16
Tennessee 30, Jacksonville 13
Minnesota 38, Green Bay 26
Carolina 34, Arizona 21

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

STORMZ

From Page 28

7-8 mark in the regular season.

Mt. Carmel was seeded second with its 12-3 slate, while the SCS Tsunamis were ranked seventh with their 4-12 mark.

Whispering Palms is the season's pennant champion with its impressive 15-1 slate. It drew a bye in the first round and will face the eight-ranked Seventh Day Adventist today. SDA advance d to the quarterfinals after outclassing Saipan International School-Blue yesterday, 25-12, 25-22. SIS-Blue had a dismal 0-11 mark in the regular season, while SDA had a better record of 2-13.

SIS-Green had an 8-6 slate in the regular season and is seeded fifth in the playoffs. The Geckos will duel Grace Christian Academy today. The GCA Eagles finished fourth in the regular season with their 10-6 mark.

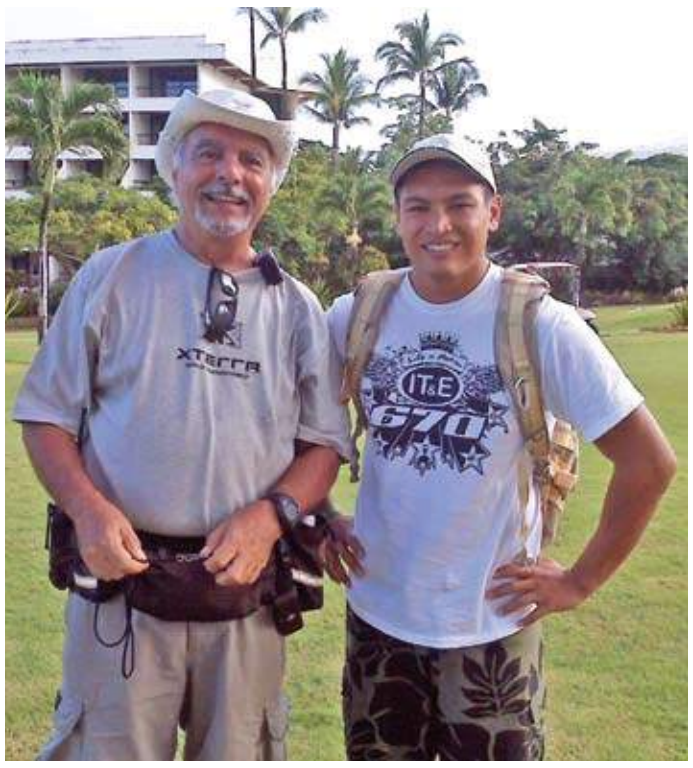
Meanwhile, the playoff round in the high school division will start next week.

The pairings for Monday's first round matches are GCA vs. Northern Marianas Academy and CCA vs. SIS-Green. Next Tuesday, MBA-A will challenge MBA-B in the first game, while SIS-Blue will take on MCS in the second match.

The GCA Eagles took the pennant in the high school division with their 12-2 record. MBA-A was runner-up with its 11-2 mark, followed by SIS-Blue (10-3), CCA (8-5), SIS-Green (6-6), MCS (5-8), MBA-B (5-9), and NMA (0-14).

2009 XTERRA World Championship

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Joshua Manglona, right, poses with XTERRA managing director Dave Nicholas.

NMASA Hall of Famer Bill Sakovich, left, poses with Joshua Manglona before the race.

Joshua Manglona relaxes at the medics tent after finishing the grueling race.

A volunteer checks on Joshua Manglona.

Husband and wife Kevin and Mieko Carey are all smiles after finishing the race.

Mieko Carey wears a lei and poses for the camera after completing the 2009 XTERRA World Championship in Makena, Maui, Hawaii, last month.

Mieko Carey (75) moves out of the water during the 1.5-kilometer swim leg of the 2009 XTERRA World Championship.

Mieko Carey in the trail run leg of the 2009 XTERRA World Championship.

Joshua Manglona heads to the bike area after completing the 1.5-kilometer swim leg.

Native Hawaiian priests bless the swimmers.

Rodriguez, Yankees beat Phils for 3-1 Series edge

Alex Rodriguez waited all game long for this hit. Heck, he waited his whole life.

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Favre shakes off boos, Vikings beat Packers, 38-26

Brett Favre sliced up his former team Sunday, leading the Minnesota Vikings to a 38-26 win over Green Bay Packers, the team that cast him aside.

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Stormz, Knights advance to semis

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Marianas Baptist Academy and Mt. Carmel School clinched the first two semis tickets in the junior high school division of the 2009-2010 Coalition of Private Schools on Saipan Volleyball League after posting similar wins yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The MCS Knights secured the first semis berth after sweeping Saipan Community School in the opening game of the playoff round, 25-17, 25-22.

In the third game, the MBA Stormz also swept Calvary Christian Academy, 25-20, 25-20, to join Mt. Carmel to the next round.

The Storms and the Knights will duel for a finals seat on Thursday.

Though MBA defeated CCA in straight sets, the victory was not easy for the Stormz. The Dandan-based school had to thwart the Sharks' rally on several occasions to pull off the win.

In the first set, the Stormz were ahead, 18-10, when the Sharks' consistent service game and hustle brought them back into the match, moving within one, 19-20. However, MBA managed to break CCA's serve to eke out a five-point win in the opening set.

The second set was a seesaw battle until the Sharks committed errors in the closing part of the match to bow out of competition.

Calvary was called for three touches violation, moving MBA within a point of wrapping up the match, 24-20. The Stormz served for a match point, a Calvary player received it, tossing the ball to its frontliners. Two CCA players chased the ball and one hit it, but the ball kissed the net and fell on Calvary's court, giving MBA the victory.

The Stormz started the playoffs seeded third in the nine-team field, as they finished with an 11-4 win-loss record. Calvary was ranked No. 6, posting a

See STORMZ on Page 26

Marianas Baptist Academy's Won Woo Choi serves during their playoff game against Calvary Christian Academy in the junior high school division of the 2009-2010 Coalition of Private Schools on Saipan Volleyball League yesterday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Govt/biz league sets make-up games next week

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League will take a breather this week to give way to the Rotary caging and other activities at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium and will play the remaining games of the regular season next week.

Five more matches must be completed before the inter-government/business caging starts its eight-team playoff round. These games are crucial, as they will determine teams that advance to the next round and what spots they will occupy.

See GOV/BIZ on Page 26

Joemary Tumaquip of the league-leading IT&E eludes the defense of Hyatt Regency Saipan's Bernard Aquino during their duel in the regular season of the 2009 IT&E Inter-Government/Business Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Nov. 15 final kick off date for PILCOWA caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

It's final, the 2009 PILCOWA Basketball League will kick off on Nov. 15 at the JP Centre Building Basketball Court.

League coordinator Pando Muleta said the second edition of the annual caging will not start this weekend, as earlier scheduled, but assured participating teams and spectators that the opening rites will definitely take place next Sunday.

"We've made a lot of changes in the schedule for the opening to accommodate the various requests of teams. This

See NOV. 15 on Page 26

MIGS' Banjo Basila pulls up for a shot against Century Insurance's Gil Gapor, right, and Larry Palero during their game in the inaugural PILCOWA caging at the JP Centre Basketball Court last year.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Club at the Hyatt Classic set for Nov. 14

CNMI's par-busters will gather on the west course of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort next Sunday for a cause with the staging of the 14th Annual Club at the Hyatt Golf Classic.

The one-day tournament set for Nov. 14 is a fundraising event with proceeds going to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Last year, more than 100 golfers participated in the 13th edition of the fundraiser and around $12,000 were raised for the foundation.

Golfers wishing to take part in the 2009 edition of the annual tournament are encouraged to register on or before

See CLUB on Page 26

Jess Wabol, seen here in action in a local tournament, is among the CNMI golfers expected to join next Sunday's 14th Annual Club at the Hyatt Golf Classic on the west course of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO